

NASA-TM-86972-REV

*19860002199*

# Photovoltaic-Powered Vaccine Refrigerator - Freezer Systems Field Test Results

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National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
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August 1985

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Work performed for  
**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**  
**Conservation and Renewable Energy**  
**Division of Photovoltaic Energy Technology**

and

**U.S. Agency for International Development**  
**Bureau of Development Support**  
**Office of Energy**



NF00125

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Printed in the United States of America

Available from

National Technical Information Service  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
5285 Port Royal Road  
Springfield, VA 22161

NTIS price codes<sup>1</sup>

Printed copy: A05

Microfiche copy: A01

<sup>1</sup>Codes are used for pricing all publications. The code is determined by the number of pages in the publication. Information pertaining to the pricing codes can be found in the current issues of the following publications, which are generally available in most libraries: *Energy Research Abstracts (ERA)*; *Government Reports Announcements and Index (GRA and I)*; *Scientific and Technical Abstract Reports (STAR)*; and publication, NTIS-PR-360 available from NTIS at the above address.

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Under Interagency Agreement DE-AI01-79ET20485

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Office of Energy  
Washington, D.C.  
Under Interagency Agreement PASA-NASA-DSB-5710-2-79

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# PHOTOVOLTAIC-POWERED VACCINE REFRIGERATOR - FREEZER

## SYSTEMS FIELD TEST RESULTS

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### SUMMARY

In 1979 the NASA Lewis Research Center, in cooperation with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and the U.S. Department of Energy, began a project to develop and field test photovoltaic-powered refrigerator/freezers suitable for vaccine storage. Development contracts were awarded to Solar Power Corp. and Solavolt International. Three refrigerator/freezers were qualified; one by Solar Power Corp. and two by Solavolt. Follow-on contracts were awarded to Solar Power Corp. for 19 field test systems and to Solavolt for 10 field test systems. The U.S. Agency for International Development joined in the field tests systems effort. A total of 29 systems were installed in 24 countries between October 1981 and October 1984. This report includes an explanation of the project, systems descriptions, installation experiences, performance data for the 22 systems for which field test data was reported, an operational reliability summary, and recommendations relative to system designs and future use of such systems. Performance data indicates that the systems are highly reliable and are capable of maintaining proper vaccine storage temperatures in a wide range of climatological and user environments.

### INTRODUCTION

There are over three billion people in developing countries who suffer from a variety of infectious diseases. Because these diseases tend to flourish in populations existing at the poverty level, they are important indicators of a vast state of collective ill health. This collective disability has an adverse effect on agricultural and industrial development. It also results in high infant and child mortality making people reluctant to participate in attempts to control population growth.

Vaccination has been used extensively in developed countries over the last few decades for the prevention of such debilitating communicable diseases as poliomyelitis, smallpox, diphtheria, and measles. The disease prevention experiences gained in these countries are now being transferred on a gradually increasing scale to the developing world. However, the application of vaccination in developing countries has met with a number of economic, operational, and technological problems. One of the main problems is the need to provide refrigerated storage and transportation for vaccines, i.e., to establish and maintain the so-called "cold chain". The cold chain is a refrigerated transportation and storage system for distributing vaccines in the potent state from the manufacturer to the actual vaccination site. Vaccines exposed to elevated temperatures suffer a permanent loss of potency. To remain potent most vaccines must be maintained at temperatures between 0 to 8 °C. For the more sensitive polio and measles vaccines, a -20 °C temperature is recommended for extended storage.

The available technical solutions to the problem of providing a cold chain are mainly based on the presumption of a dependable supply of electric power which is frequently not the case in developing countries. Where electricity is not available, vaccines are stored (if at all) in kerosene-fueled refrigerators. These refrigerators suffer from a multitude of problems including high maintenance requirements, fuel availability and purity, high fuel costs, and lack of adequate temperature control. Vaccine transportation and storage in most developing countries is especially difficult because many of them have hot or tropical climates and because many of the refrigerators produced for use in developed countries are unsuitable for use in locations having high ambient temperatures.

Approximately 75 percent of the population that needs to be served by immunization programs is in areas not served by reliable refrigeration. Thus, the Centers for Disease Control of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the World Health Organization consider the development of cost-effective photovoltaic-powered refrigerator/freezer systems for vaccine storage vital to the implementation of immunization programs in developing countries.

#### BACKGROUND

In 1975, the NASA Lewis Research Center was assigned responsibility by the U.S. Energy Research and Development Administration (predecessor to the U.S. Department of Energy) for developing and field testing stand-alone photovoltaic power systems and developing related system technology. Several of the early field test systems included refrigerators, some of which were used for storage of medical supplies. Recognizing that photovoltaic (PV)-powered refrigerator/freezers (R/F's) represented a probable solution to the urgent need for vaccine storage in rural areas of developing countries, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) requested in 1979 that NASA Lewis undertake a program to develop and field test PV-powered R/F systems for vaccine storage.

The program that ensued called for a two-phased approach. The first, or development phase, was to develop and qualify one or more PV-powered R/F systems. The second, or field test phase, was to place eight PV-powered R/F systems in remote (rural) health centers in six representative countries and to monitor their performance and operation for a period of one year.

The first phase began in February 1980 with a solicitation for competitive procurement for the development and qualification of PV-powered R/F systems. The design and performance specifications and the qualification test requirements were developed by NASA Lewis in consultation with the U.S. CDC and the World Health Organization (WHO) Expanded Programme on Immunization. These specifications and requirements contained elements relating to PV system design and performance based on U.S. standards and elements relating to R/F design and performance based on CDC and WHO inputs and American National Standards Institute performance measurement requirements.

Three contracts were subsequently awarded; one to the Solar Power Corporation (SPC) on February 19, 1981, another to Motorola (Solavolt International (SVI))<sup>1</sup> on March 19, 1981, and a third to ARCO Solar. Shortly after the award, ARCO Solar requested and received permission to withdraw from their contract because of problems with the R/F they had proposed. The Solar Power Corporation successfully qualified a PV-powered R/F system on June 26, 1981 using an Adler-Barbour R/F. Solavolt International successfully qualified two PV-powered R/F systems in January 1982, one using an R/F now manufactured by the Marvel Division of the Dayton Walther Corp., and another using a R/F manufactured by Polar Products. The result of this multiple award qualification effort was that three different types of R/F's were qualified. All three use the same compressor, but each uses a different approach to compartment cooling; i.e., Adler-Barbour uses a single evaporator in the freezer compartment, Marvel uses a eutectic (cold storage) cell in the freezer compartment, and Polar Products uses two completely separate refrigeration systems, one for the refrigerator compartment and one for the freezer compartment. Both Solar Power Corporation and Solavolt International were awarded follow-on contracts (January 19, 1982 and January 26, 1983, respectively) for the fabrication, test, and deployment of PV-powered vaccine storage R/F field test systems.

The scope of the second or field test phase was expanded almost three-fold when NASA Lewis proposed to the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) that PV-powered R/F's for vaccine storage be included in the U.S. AID Development Support Program managed by NASA Lewis. The objective of that program is to determine the suitability of PV systems technology in terms of cost competitiveness and reliability for selected applications in rural areas of developing countries. AID emphasized the health care delivery application category since the relatively high cost of PV generated electricity can be more readily justified for those uses. The NASA Lewis strategy in implementing the AID projects was to award contracts for design and development of systems resulting in prototype systems and design packages.

Subsequent negotiations with AID missions raised the total number of CDC and AID PV-powered vaccine R/F field test systems to 29. Nineteen field test systems were procured from SPC and 10 systems were procured from SVI. The SVI qualification test systems have been installed at NASA Lewis where they are undergoing endurance testing. The SPC qualification test system was installed in India and one of the SPC production systems was installed at NASA Lewis for endurance testing. A complete listing of all NASA Lewis field test sites having vaccine R/F's is given in table I. That table also shows six additional R/F systems being used for vaccine storage and installed in larger PV system applications developed as part of other AID PV development programs. One such application is the clinic in the PV powered village of Hammam Biadha, Tunisia. The other five R/F systems are at PV powered clinic systems in South America and Africa.

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<sup>1</sup>On October 1, 1981, Motorola and Shell Oil Company combined their photovoltaic operations and formed a partnership named Solavolt International.



The field test plan calls for one year of operational support and performance monitoring and evaluation for all systems. Installation of the SPC systems evolved into a protracted affair with the first SPC system being installed in India in October 1981 and the last system being delayed (through no fault of the Solar Power Corporation) until October 1984. Eighteen of the 19 systems were installed by October 28, 1983. The nineteenth system (Liberia) was delayed due to numerous delays in completing the health center there. Installation of the SVI systems began on November 3, 1983 and was completed on June 26, 1984.

This report summarizes systems designs of both SPC and SVI systems, installation experiences, systems performance, reliability, operational experiences, and recommendations. Another report containing additional operational information for the SVI systems will be issued at the close of the evaluation period for those systems.

The photovoltaic powered vaccine refrigerator/freezer project began in 1979 and will continue through mid-1985 when all of the field tests will be completed. In the early 1980's, a general phase-out of the terrestrial photovoltaic activities at NASA Lewis was initiated. As a result of ensuing personnel changes, a fairly large number of people participated directly in this project. Although they are not listed as coauthors, they contributed measurably to the success of this project. They are: Lawrence A. Thaler who initially managed the project, managed the development phase contracts, and participated in the installation of the first Solar Power Corp. systems; John Toma who managed the Solar Power Corp. field test contract and the Solavolt field test contract through most of the installation phase, participated in many Solar Power Corp. and Solavolt systems installations, performed some of the early data analyses and reporting, and conducted most of the endurance tests at the NASA Lewis; Dr. Patricia O'Donnell who served as Project Manager for a short time; Ralph Thomas who installed and brought on line the endurance test systems at the NASA Lewis and who offered considerable assistance in solving field test systems instrumentation problems; and James E. Martz who participated in the installation of several of both Solar Power Corp. and Solavolt systems, provided considerable input into data analysis software formulation, assisted with data analysis, and reviewed this report.

## SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

A PV-powered vaccine R/F system consists of a 12-V PV array, a power cable from the array to the R/F, one or more voltage regulators, batteries, a refrigerator/freezer, and, in the case of these field test systems, instrumentation. The SPC and SVI systems differ slightly in regard to component selection and design philosophy. Each is described in detail below and in table II. All of the systems, however, were designed for fully automatic operation and minimum maintenance. Maintenance is limited to washing the PV modules as necessary and removing frost from the evaporator. Spare parts, tool kits, and user manuals were supplied to each system site.

### Solar Power Corp. Systems

The SPC systems used from 7 to 11 SPC LG12-351 33-W PV modules depending on system location (table I). The PV power systems were sized based on best available insolation data, 630-A-hr of battery capacity and R/F compressor

TABLE I. - NASA LEWIS PV-POWERED VACCINE REFRIGERATOR FIELD-TEST SUMMARY

Latin America/Caribbean	Africa	Near East	Asia
(CDC) Peru Pucara <sup>a</sup> 248/ <sup>b</sup> 525 14 Oct. 82       SPC/AB	(CDC) Gambia 1. Kaur           320/630 2. Gunjur       320/630 27 Jan. 83       SPC/AB		(CDC) Maldives Kuluduffushi     284/630 6 May 82         SPC/AB
(CDC) Columbia Bocas Del Palo   284/630 11 Sep. 82       SPC/AB	(CDC) Ivory Coast 1. Niofouin      355/630 2. Zaranou       355/630 5 Feb. 83        SPC/AB		(CDC) India Bhoorbaral       355/630 19 Oct. 81       SPC/AB
(AID) Dominican Republic Las Tablas       284/ <sup>b</sup> 525 28 Aug. 82       SPC/AB	(AID) Ivory Coast Menee            280/315 25 Feb. 84       SVI/PP	(AID) Jordan Mowaqar          160/420 28 June 84       SVI/M	(AID) Indonesia 1. Cibung Bulang 320/630 2. Batujaya      320/630 16 Apr. 82       SPC/AB
(AID) Guatemala Tierra Blanca    248/630 7 Oct. 82         SPC/AB	(AID) Burkina Faso Orodara          200/315 21 Feb. 84       SVI/PP	(AID) Tunisia 1. Es-Smirat (Siliana) 240/315 2. Bir Amama     240/420 1. 3 Feb. 84      1. SVI/PP 2. 6 Feb. 84      2. SVI/M	(AID) Thailand Tambon Tha Thong 200/420 2 Nov. 83        SVI/M
(AID) Honduras Guaimaca         200/420 12 Jan. 84       SVI/M	(AID) Liberia Suehn            390/630 12 Oct. 84       SPC/AB	(AID) Morocco Bouaboute        355/ <sup>b</sup> 525 28 Oct. 83       SPC/AB	
(AID) Haiti Anse-A-Veau      284/630 2 Sep. 82         SPC/AB	(AID) Zaire Kionzo           355/ <sup>b</sup> 525 11 Feb. 83       SPC/AB	(AID) Tunisia <sup>c</sup> Hammam Biadha   ---/630 Jan. 83           SPC/AB	
(AID) Guyana Schepmoed        284/630 30 Sep. 82        SPC/AB	(AID) Zimbabwe Chiota           284/630 15 Feb. 83        SPC/AB	<p>LENGEND:</p> <p>SPC = Solar Power Corp.           AB = Adler-Barbour SX = Solarex                      PP = Polar Products SVI = Solavolt International       M = Marvel</p> <p>a = Array peak watts/battery ampere-hours b = One battery damaged or lost in transit c = R/F is part of larger clinic system</p> <p>Modules:                           Batteries: SPC: LG12-351, 35.5Wp           SPC: Delco 2000, 105A-hr SVI: MSP43E40, 40Wp           SVI: Delco 2000, 105A-hr</p>	
(AID) Ecuador Comuna Cobos     284/630 23 Sep. 82        SPC/AB	(AID) Mali Quelessebouguou 200/315 14 Feb. 84        SVI/PP		
(AID) St. Vincent & the Grenadines 1. New Sandy Bay 200/420 2. Canouan       160/315 1. 18 Jan. 84    1. SVI/M 2. 25 Jan. 84    2. SVI/PP	(AID) Kenya <sup>c</sup> 1. Kibwezi       ---/630 2. Ikutha        ---/630 10 May 83        SX/AB	<p>Systems on test at NASA Lewis:</p> <p>2/22/83 SPC/AB 330/630 3/24/83 SVI/PP 400/315 2/22/83 M with LeRC PV array and array/voltage regulator 450/420</p>	
(AID) Guyana <sup>c</sup> Waramuri         ---/630 1 Feb. 83         SX/AB	(AID) Zimbabwe <sup>c</sup> Chikwakwa       ---/630 31 May 83         SX/AB		
(AID) Ecuador <sup>c</sup> Pedro Vicente Maldonado        ---/630 31 Mar. 83        SX/AB			

TABLE II. - REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER DESIGN CHARACTERISTICS

Characteristic	Adler-Barbour	Marvel	Polar Products
Refrigerator compartment volume	68.3 liters	85 liters	104 liters
Freezer compartment volume	25.5 liters	28.3 liters	23 liters
Type of evaporator	Roll bonded aluminum, capillary fed evaporator	Eutectic cold cell	Expanded tube
Compressor manufacturer	Danfoss	Danfoss	Danfoss
Number of compressors	1	1	2
Number of evaporators	1	1	2
Cabinet material	Outer: Epoxy coated aluminum Inner: One piece aluminum extrusion	Thermo-ABS reinforced plastic and fiberglass reinforced	Molded polyethylene
Type of insulation	Rigid expanded polyurethane	Foamed in-place polyurethane	Foamed in-place polyurethane
Type of thermostat	Mechanical	Mechanical	Refrigerator: Electronic Freezer: Electronic
Number of thermostats	1	1	2
Method of refrigeration compartment temperature control	Thermostatically controlled air door	Thermostatically controlled air door	Thermostats with separate compressors each compartment
System voltage (nominal)	12 V dc	12 V dc	12 V dc
Battery capacity (DELCO 2000)	6 Batteries, 630 A-hr	4 Batteries, 420 A-hr	3 Batteries, 315 A-hr
Weight (without batteries)	117.9 kg	55 kg	77 kg
Condenser	Finned copper	Finned copper	Finned copper
Minimum freezer compartment temperature at 43 °C	-25 °C	-7 °C	-25 °C
24 hr A-hr consumption following insertion of 2 kg of 43 °C water (in cold packs) into freezer compartment <sup>a</sup>	109	76	80
Low voltage cutout	10.8 V dc	11.5 V dc	11.5 V dc
Reconnect Voltage	11.5 V dc	13.5 V dc	13.5 V dc
Fan cooled condenser	Yes	Yes	Yes
High freezer compartment temperature alarm	Yes	No	No

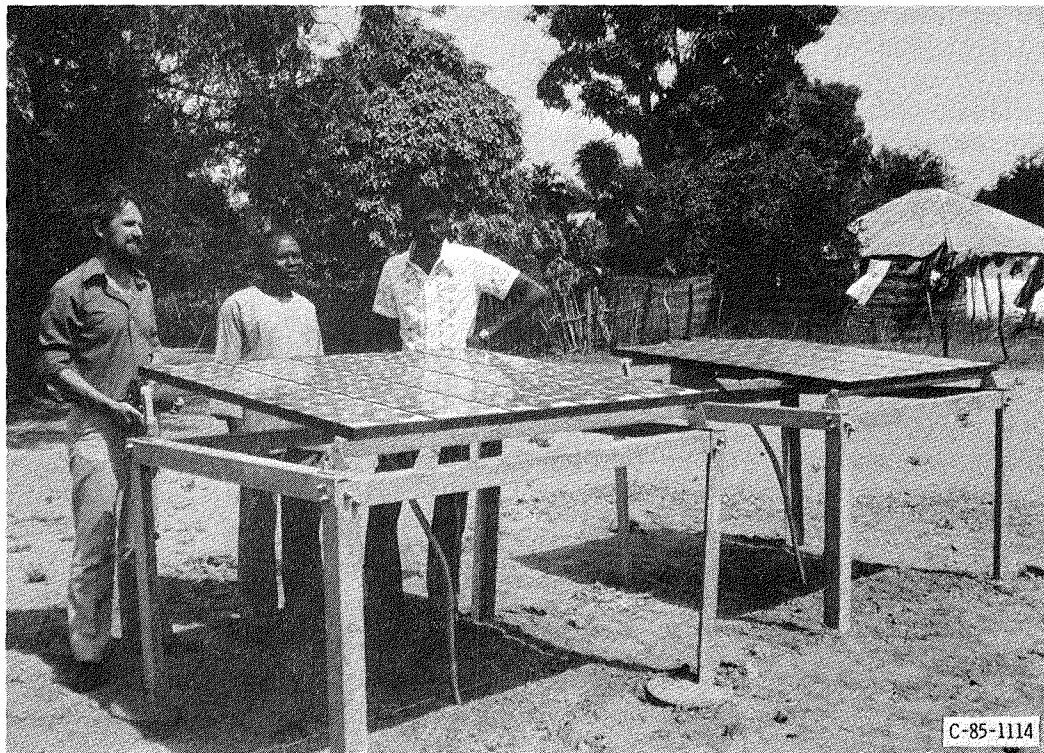
<sup>a</sup>Ambient temperature = 43 °C

energy requirements for the average ambient temperature at each location. The contract called for one spare module to be supplied with each system. SPC elected to mount and wire that module into the array at the time of installation creating an on-line spare. Thus every system initially had from 14 to 9 percent (respectively) increased array capability.

The array structure was designed to be assembled on-site and consists of specially fabricated precut and drilled galvanized angle metal members. The support structure was designed for ground mounting (figs. 1(a) to (c)) although a few arrays were installed on roofs (figs. 2(a) to (c)) and other raised structures (figs. 3 and 4). A 30-m length of two conductor No. 2 armored cable was supplied with each four module array panel of each system to bring array power to a junction box located near the R/F. A short cable carries power from the junction box to a twist-lock connector on the R/F cabinet. The number 2 conductors were required to minimize the voltage drop between the PV array and the R/F. Since the maximum power point of the SPC 36 cell module is ~15 V at 2.3 A in a 30 °C ambient temperature and since the batteries need to be charged at 15 V when in a 30 °C ambient, virtually no voltage drop could be accepted in the power cable. Hence the large diameter multiple cables.

The voltage regulator, batteries, compressor, controls, and instruments are all contained in or on the R/F cabinet except for the insolometer and the ambient temperature thermograph which are separate instruments. The voltage regulator, six Delco 2000 batteries each having a 105-A-hr capacity, the compressor and the compressor controller are all located in the bottom of the R/F cabinet (fig. 5(a)). Power system instrumentation is located on the side of the R/F cabinet and a temperature recorder and alarms (audible and visual) are located on the front of the R/F cabinet (fig. 5(b)). The voltage regulator is an SPC designed shunt type regulator which allows for measurement of total potential array output (versus consumed array output for a series or switching type regulator). Power system instrumentation is composed of a voltmeter, array and compressor current meters, array and compressor ampere-hour meters which are powered by 9-V dry cells, and a compressor run-time meter (fig. 5(c)). A spring wound 7-day circular chart temperature recorder is used to record refrigerator and freezer compartment temperatures. A separate (stand-alone) spring wound 7-day circular chart temperature recorder is used to record ambient temperature. Also, a separate stand-alone insolometer was supplied with each system. The insolometer consists of a Li-Cor silicon photovoltaic cell sensor and a battery powered Campbell-Scientific Integrator.

The SPC systems use an Adler-Barbour model DCM-12SM refrigerator/freezer which is characterized in table II and figures 16(a) and (b). The freezer temperature controller and freezer temperature indicator are located on the front of the R/F cabinet and can be field adjusted. In addition, an adjustable thermostatically controlled air door and adjustable air return ports in the refrigerator/freezer compartment separator wall permit refrigeration compartment temperature control. Audio and visual alarms indicating high freezer compartment temperature are also located on the front of the cabinet. The alarms are powered by a 6-V dry cell lantern battery.



(a) Gambia.



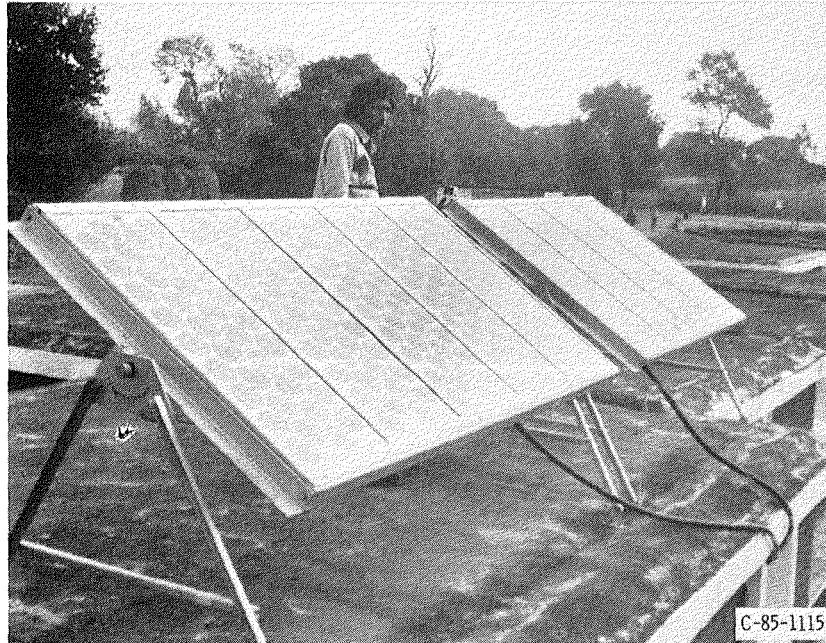
(b) Ecuador.

Figure 1. - Solar Power Corp. ground mounted PV array.



(c) Zimbabwe.

Figure 1. - Concluded.



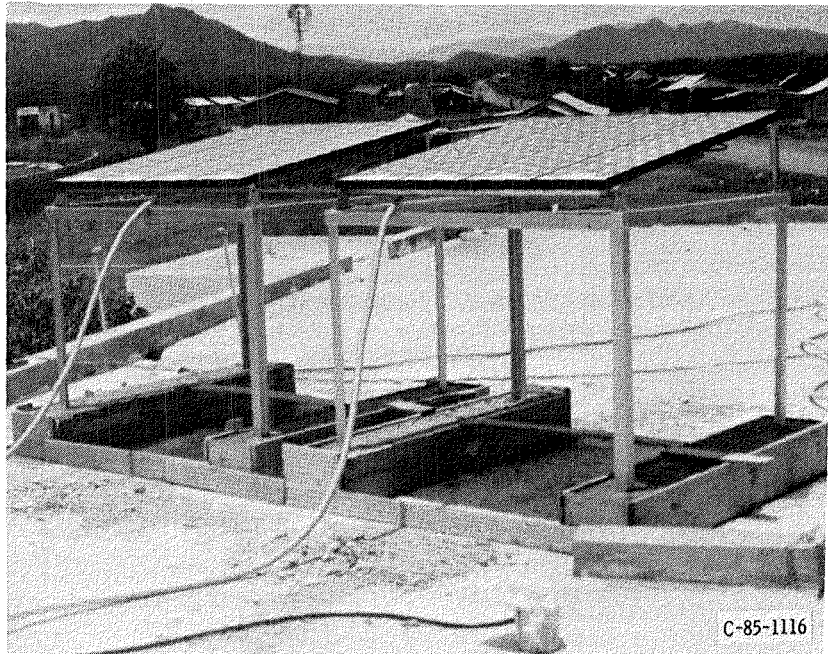
(a) India.



(b) Haiti.

Figure 2. - Solar Power Corp. roof mounted PV array.





(c) Dominican Republic.

Figure 2. - Concluded.



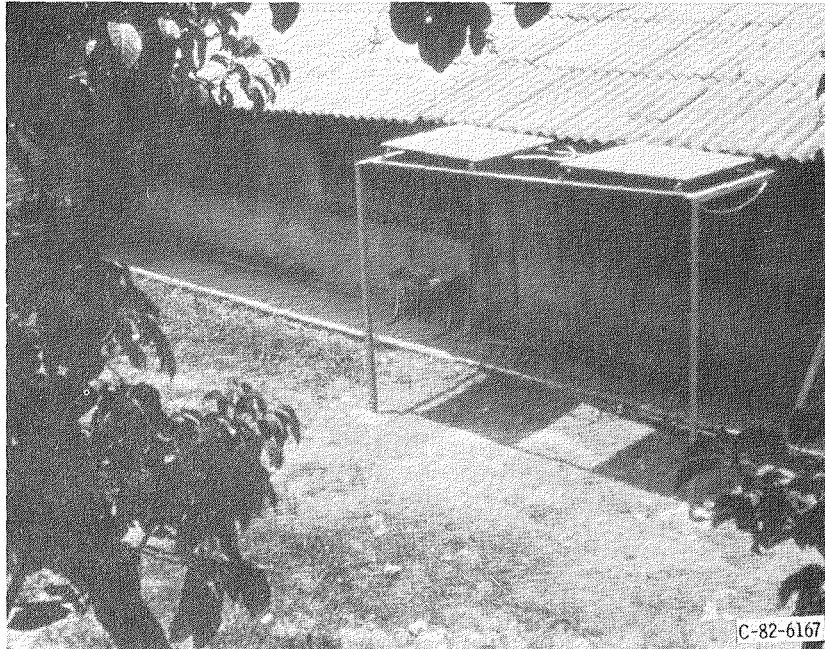


Figure 3. - Solar Power Corp. raised PV array - Columbia.

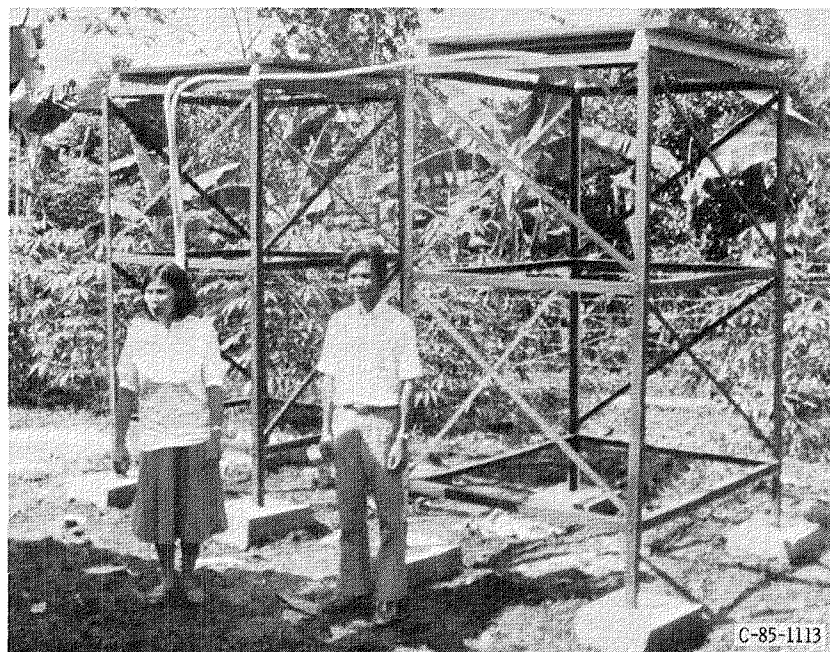
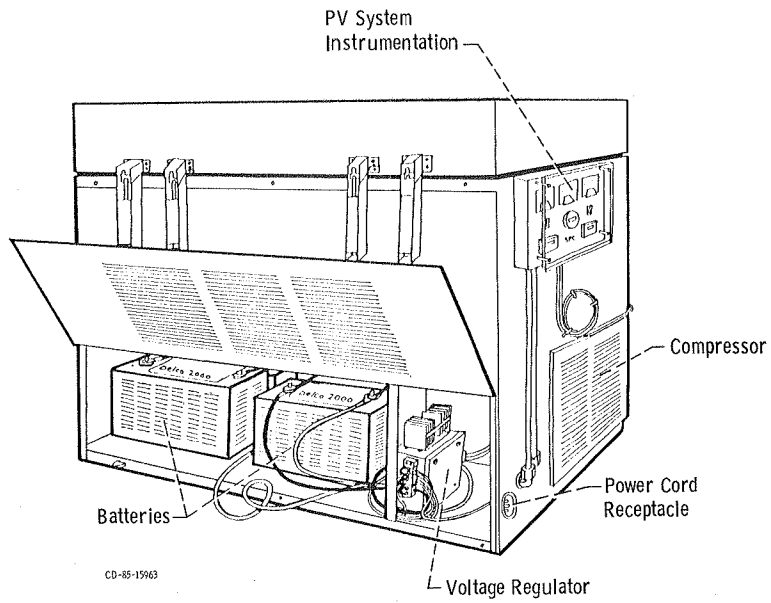
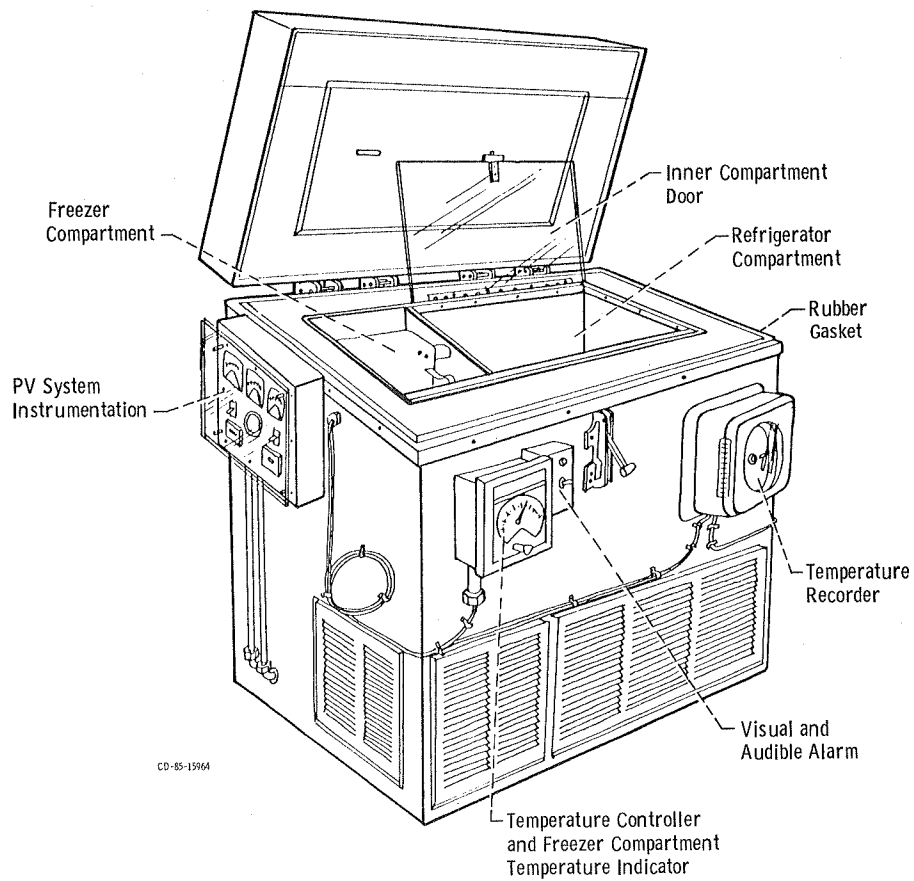


Figure 4. - Solar Power Corp. raised PV array - Indonesia.

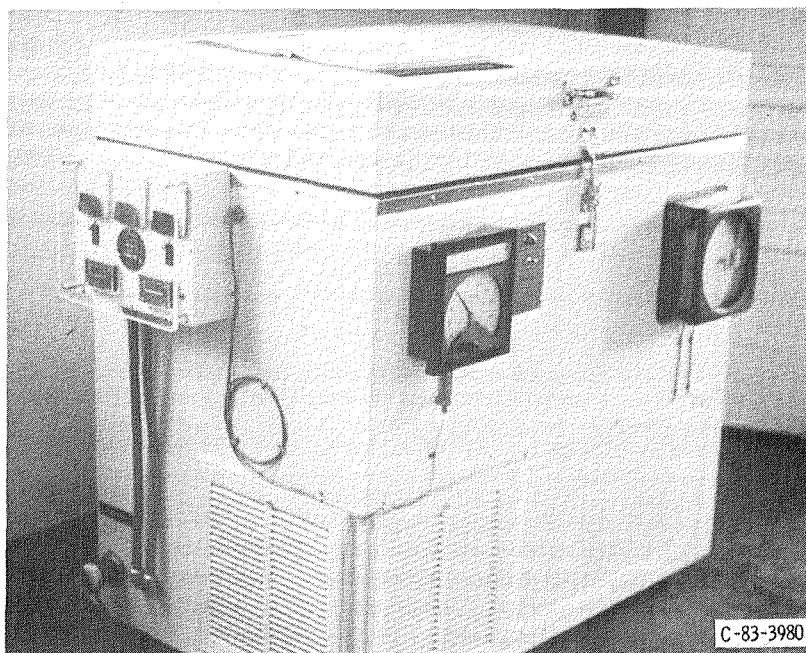


(a) Rear view.



(b) Front view.

Figure 5. - Solar Power Corp./Adler-Barbour PV powered vaccine refrigerator/freezer.



(c) Installed unit.

Figure 5. - Solar Power Corp. /Adler-Barbour PV powered vaccine refrigerator/freezer.

## Solavolt International Systems

The SVI systems use from four to seven SVI MSP43E40 40 W PV modules depending on the type of R/F and the system location (table I). These PV power systems were sized based on best available insolation data, R/F compressor energy requirements for the average ambient temperature at each location, and 315-A-hr of battery capacity for the Polar Products R/F and 420-A-hr battery capacity for the Marvel R/F. No spare modules were procured from SVI.

The SVI array structure was also designed to be assembled onsite and consists of sections of standard "Unistrut", channel and telescoping box sections. This array structure was also designed for ground mounting (fig. 6) although some arrays also were installed on roofs (figs. 7(a) to (d)). A single 30-m length of four conductor No. 8 direct burial cable was supplied with each array to bring array power to a terminal block on the back of the R/F. The large wire size was required here for essentially the same reason as for the SPC systems, to keep voltage losses to an absolute minimum, but also to divide the array into segments that generate 10 A or less to accommodate voltage regulator limitations.

The voltage regulators, batteries, compressor(s) (the Polar Products R/F has two compressors), controls, and PV system instruments are all contained in the bottoms of the R/F cabinets (figs. 8(a),(b) and 9). The insulometers, which are the same as those supplied with the SPC systems, are stand-alone instruments. The temperature recorder for the Polar Products R/F is also located on the bottom part of the R/F cabinet while the temperature recorder for the Marvel R/F is located on the front of the R/F cabinet (figs. 10 and 11).

SVI procured the 30-A rated switching type voltage regulators from Speciality Concepts, Inc. and used them in a derated capacity (10 A) based on previous experience with relays and contractors operated at or near the manufacturer's current rating. Solavolt now rates these regulators at 20 A and field experience suggests that this is a valid rating. The voltage regulator is a switching type which precludes measuring total potential array output.

Power system instrumentation on both types of R/F's is composed of a single switched meter which displays system voltage and array and compressor(s) current, an array ampere-hour meter, a load ampere-hour meter which records compressor(s) and instrumentation ampere-hours, and run-time meters (one in the Marvel and two in the Polar Products). All these instruments are powered from the R/F 12-V power system.

Each R/F also has a three channel 7-day circular chart spring wound temperature recorder. This instrument records freezer and refrigerator compartment temperatures and ambient temperature.

The SVI systems use refrigerator/freezers manufactured by the Marvel Division of Dayton-Walther Corp. and Polar Products both of which are characterized in table II and figures 16(a) and (b). The thermostatic controls for the freezer compartment in the Marvel and for both freezer and refrigerator compartment in the Polar Products are located in the cabinets under the R/F boxes, are factory set, and are not easily field adjustable.

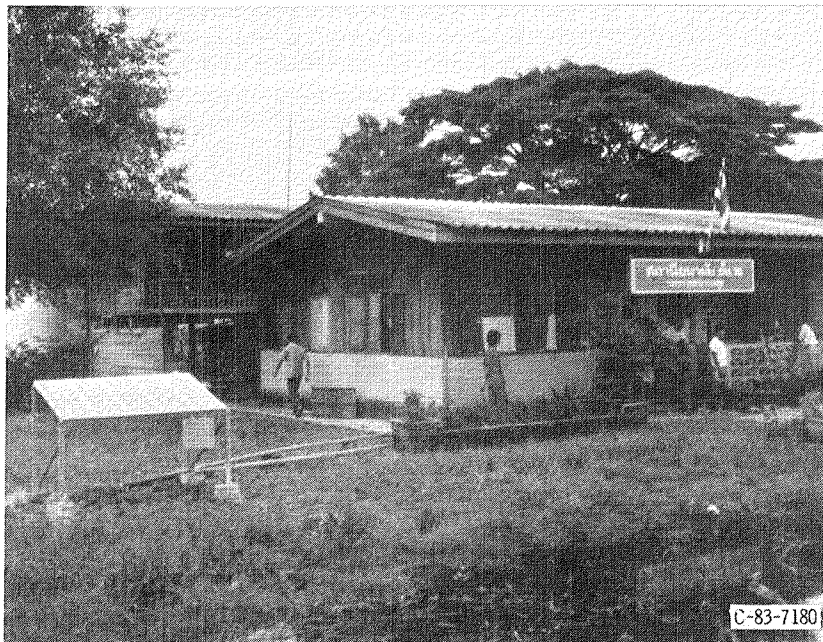
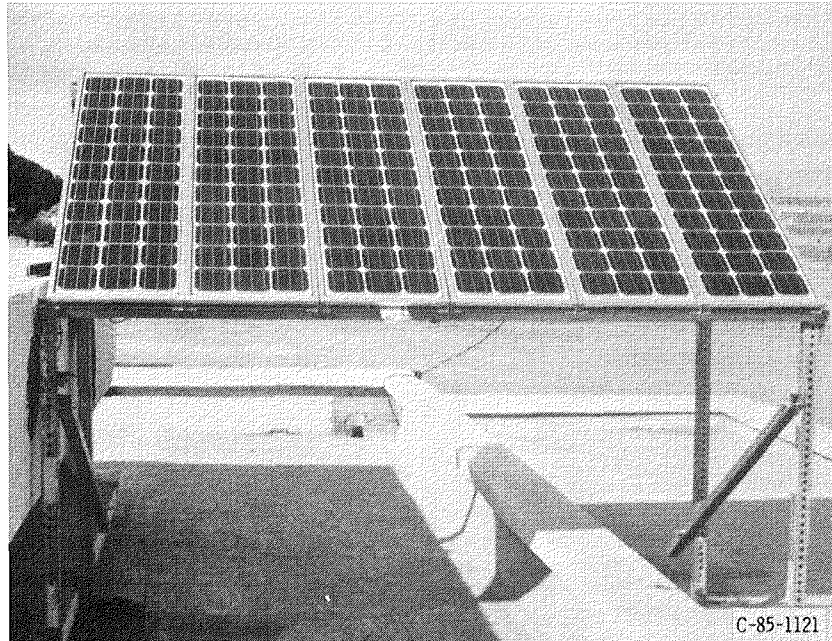
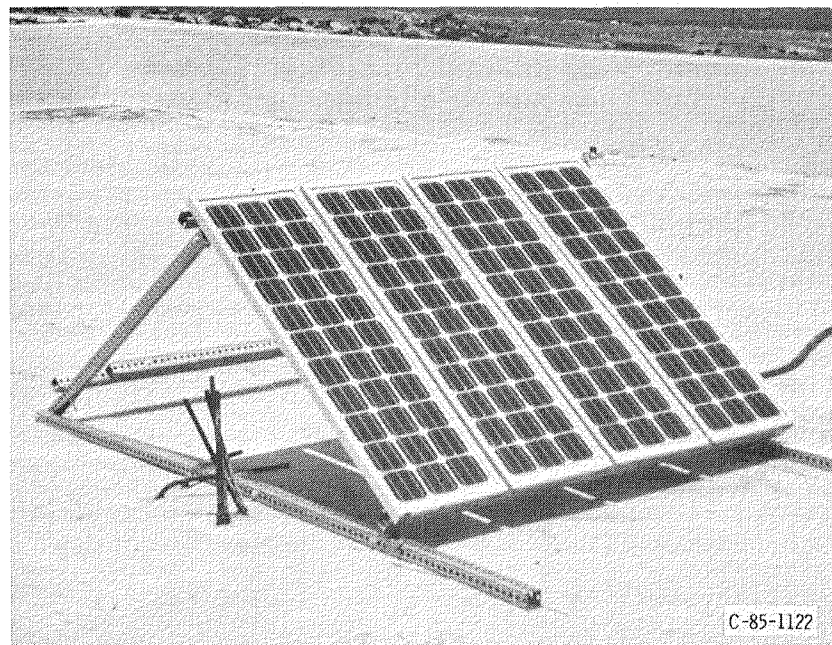


Figure 6. - Solavolt International ground mounted PV array - Thailand.



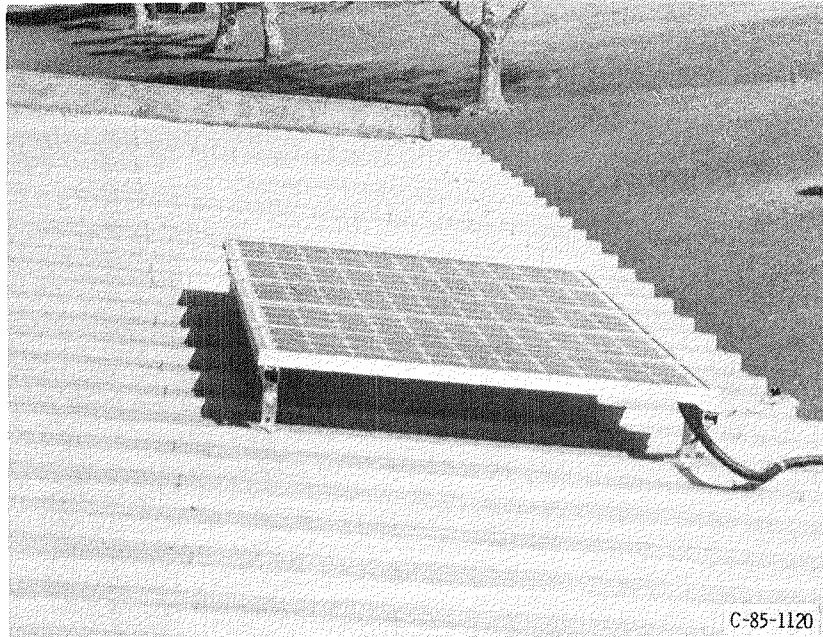
(a) Tunisia



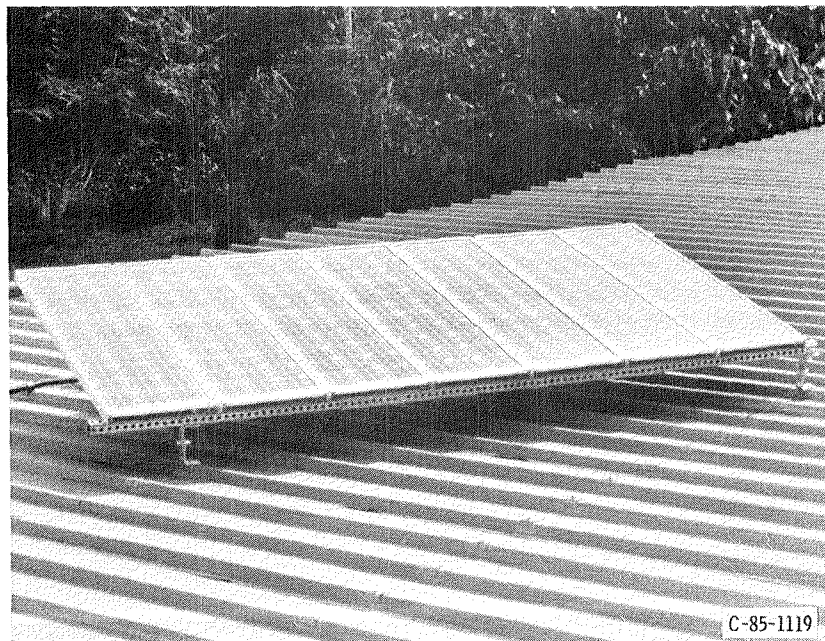
(b) Jordan.

Figure 7. - Solavolt International roof mounted PV array.





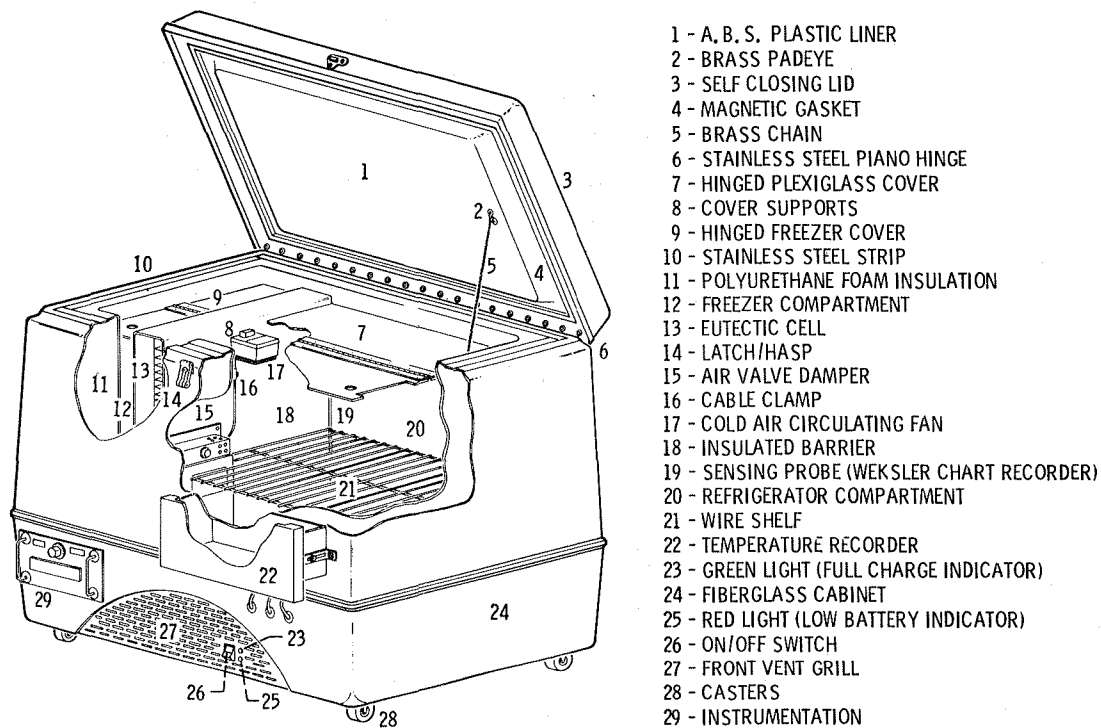
(c) Mali.



(d) Ivory Coast.

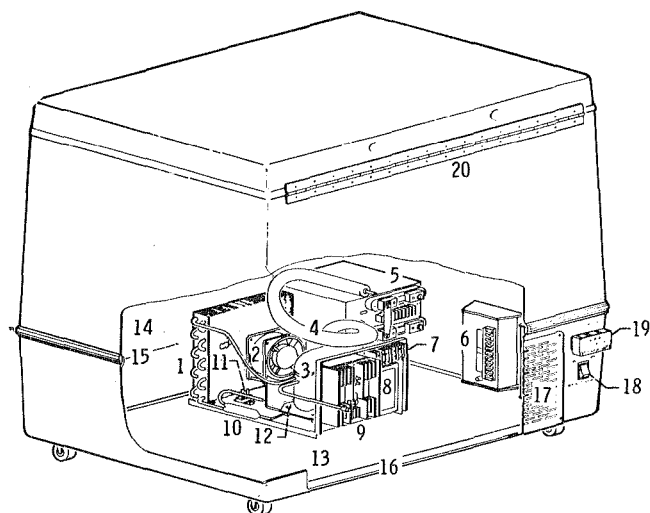
Figure 7. - Concluded.





(a) Front view.

Figure 8. - Solavolt International/Marvel PV powered vaccine refrigerator/freezer.



- 1 - CONDENSER
- 2 - CONDENSER FAN
- 3 - COMPRESSOR
- 4 - INSULATED SUCTION LINE
- 5 - INSTRUMENTATION
- 6 - VOLTAGE REGULATOR
- 7 - TERMINAL BLOCK
- 8 - PRINT CIRCUIT BOARD
- 9 - ELECTRONIC MODULE
- 10 - FILTER/DRIER
- 11 - CIRCUIT BREAKER
- 12 - REVERSE POLARITY DIODE
- 13 - CHARGE TUBE
- 14 - POLYURETHANE INSULATION
- 15 - VAPOR BARRIER
- 16 - REINFORCED BOTTOM
- 17 - BACK VENT GRILL
- 18 - PULL DOWN/MAINTENANCE SWITCH
- 19 - TERMINAL BLOCK
- 20 - STAINLESS STEEL PIANO HINGE

NOTE: ALL WIRING HAS BEEN OMITTED FOR SIMPLICITY

(b) Rear view.

Figure 8. - Concluded.

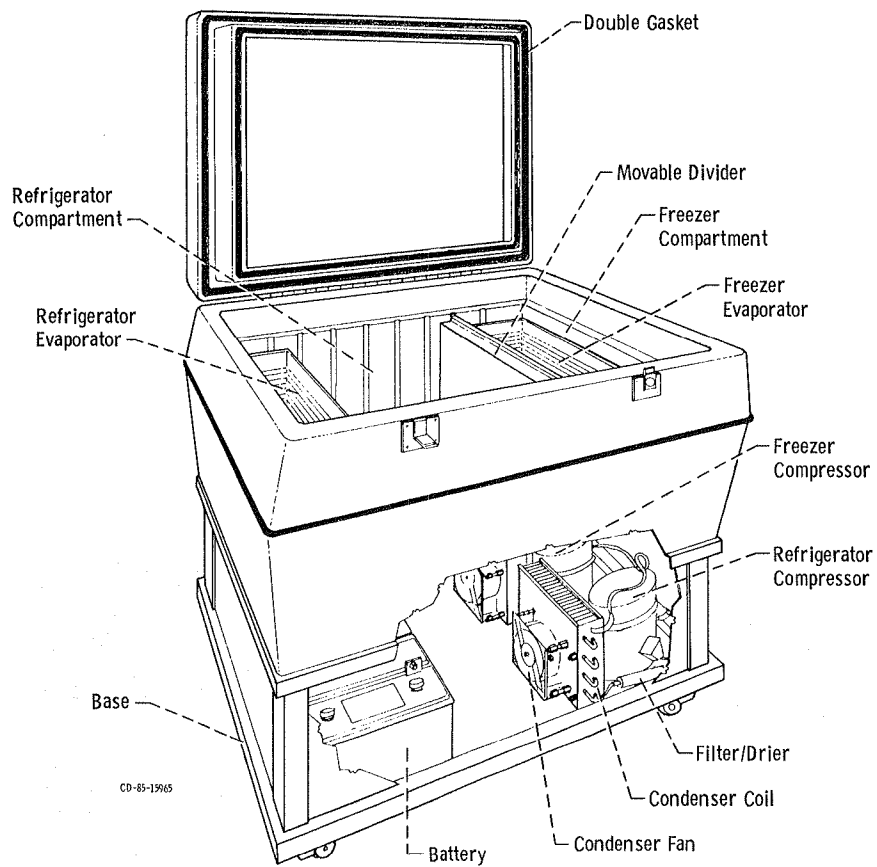


Figure 9. - Solavolt International/Polar Products PV powered vaccine refrigerator/freezer.

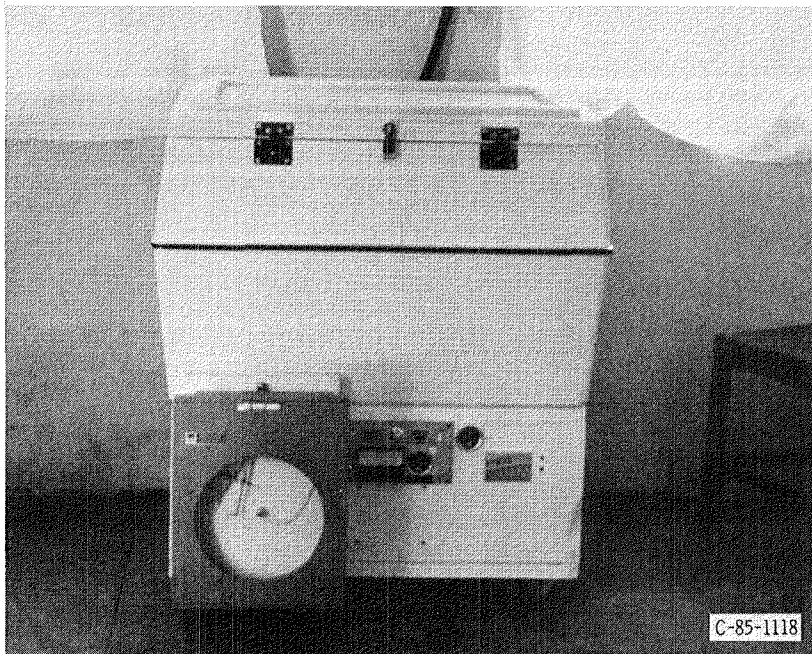


Figure 10. - Solavolt International - Polar Products refrigerator/freezer.

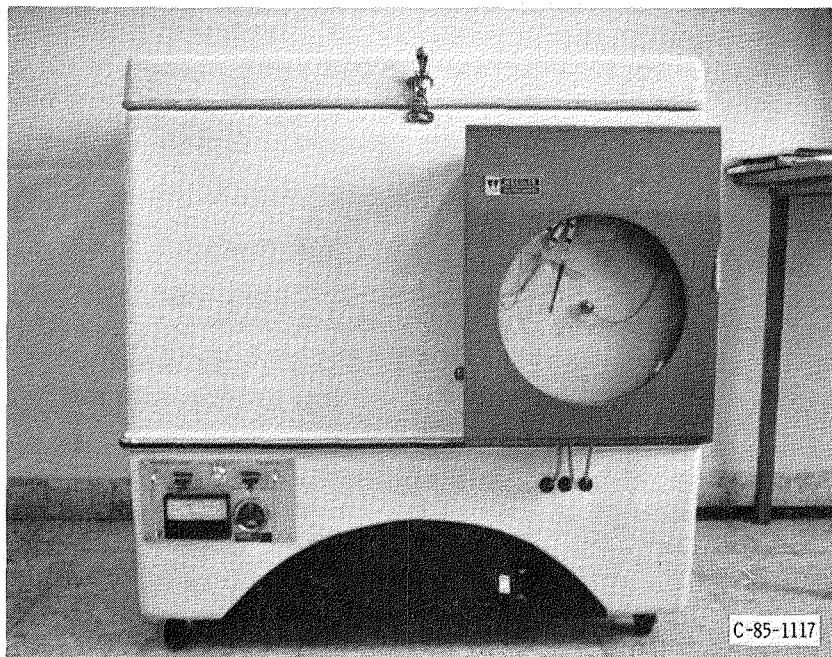


Figure 11. - Solavolt International - Marvel refrigerator/freezer.

However, refrigerator compartment temperature in the Marvel can be manipulated by means of a thermostatically controlled air door between the freezer and refrigerator compartments.

## INSTALLATION EXPERIENCES

For the purposes of this discussion, the shipping of the hardware from the contractors' facilities to the sites will be considered part of the installation activity. All of the SPC and SVI systems were shipped from the U.S. by air freight except for the system to Liberia which was surface shipped. The batteries for the Maldives' system were surface shipped from Singapore and for the Moroccan system from Marseilles, having been, in both cases, air freighted from the U.S. to those transshipment locations.

### Solar Power Corp. Systems Installations

The SPC overall installation effort extended over an enormously long period of time for every reason that can be imagined. Delays included; reaching accords with host countries, making shipping arrangements, shipping the equipment, customs documentation and clearances, scheduling SPC and NASA Lewis personnel for installation travel so as to minimize the total number of installation trips and awaiting construction completion of a health post.

The original plan called for a NASA Lewis engineer to accompany the SPC installer on all installations. In some instances, events conspired against this plan. For instance, while installing the system in Columbia, NASA Lewis, SPC and PAHO personnel were advised that the equipment for the next installation (Peru) was in transit from Lima to Pucara and that the installation crew should arrive on a particular date to meet the equipment at the site. In fact, the equipment became hopelessly lost in transit between Lima and the site with the result that after waiting several days at the site (Pucara), the installation team had to leave Peru to attend to other scheduled installation activities. The equipment arrived at Pucara some time later. Because of scheduling problems, only the SPC installer was able to return to do the installation.

In Indonesia, the NASA Lewis engineer (but not the SPC installer) was advised to not visit one site (Batuja) because of sensitivities concerning U.S. Government personnel being in the country during their national elections. Scheduling prevented NASA Lewis personnel from being present for the installations in Morocco, Guatemala, Guyana and Ecuador. SPC installed these systems alone. The exceptionally long delay installing the system in Liberia was mostly due to delays in completing construction of the health center and then scheduling a NASA Lewis engineer to do the installation and training.

All of the SPC hardware was packaged in wood containers and none of it experienced shipping damage although there were some mixups; e.g., the air carrier mistakingly delivered five of six batteries to Haiti and seven to the Dominican Republic, and the Dominican Republic array support structure to Haiti. In several instances batteries were mishandled by local personnel while being transported incountry or while being installed. Mishandling involved tipping the batteries with resultant spilling of electrolyte. Battery boxes were marked "this side up" in English with arrows pointing

upward; however, in some cases local personnel who could not read English interpreted the arrow to mean that side down and so placed the batteries upside down (a situation hurriedly corrected by knowledgeable personnel). Nevertheless, two batteries were drained and damaged beyond use in the Dominican Republic and batteries in several other SPC and SVI sites suffered minor losses of electrolyte.

There were several instances of various pieces of small hardware that were lost in shipment. In all cases this happened when the individual boxes had been opened prior to receipt at the site. In several other instances, SPC neglected to send enough of or the proper hardware; e.g., bolts, nuts, battery nuts, etc. Missing hardware, whether lost in shipment or not packed at the factory, always creates problems. By definition, the systems are installed in remote locations where even the simplest items, e.g., bolts and nuts, are almost impossible to obtain.

### Solavolt International Systems Installations

The overall SVI installation effort progressed rapidly and smoothly for the first nine systems, with a slight delay for the tenth (Jordan) due to a last minute reassignment of that system to Jordan and subsequent rescheduling of SVI and NASA Lewis travel schedules. A NASA Lewis engineer accompanied SVI for all installations.

The system scheduled for Honduras presented a special problem. The health center that had been selected, Aldea Las Selvas, is very close to the Nicaraguan border. When the installation team arrived border area conflicts precluded their installing the system at that health center. Instead, they assembled and checked out the system and trained local personnel at a health facility in Tegucigalpa. On June 19, 1984, U.S. AID/Honduras notified NASA Lewis that the Hondurans had requested and been given permission to install the system in Marale, away from the border conflict zone. Word was received in November, 1984 that the system was installed in Guaimaca in October (no reason given for the change).

The SVI/Marvel systems were packaged in wood containers. One R/F container (Jordan) must have been dropped in shipment because the thermograph had been jarred loose from the front of the cabinet. The Polar Product R/F's were shipped in cardboard containers and suffered no shipping damage.

### Installation Experiences - General

Siting information that would guide the design and installation effort had been requested from all sites. In some cases detailed information was received, in other cases little or none. On the basis of available information both the SPC and SVI array structures were designed to be mounted on the ground. In several cases and for various reasons the arrays were mounted on roofs (India (SPC), fig. 2(a); Haiti (SPC), fig. 2(b); the Dominican Republic (SPC), fig. 2(c); both Tunisian systems (SVI), of which one is shown in fig. 7(a); Jordan (SVI), fig. 7(b); Mali (SVI), fig. 7 (c); and Ivory Coast (SVI), fig. 7(d)), or on raised structures (Columbia (SPC), fig. 3; and Indonesia (SPC), fig. 4).

One fear was that the batteries, which look like automotive batteries, would be "appropriated" in transit. In fact, only one battery was lost between the port-of-entry and the site (Peru).

In order to improve installation esthetics and to avoid problems hanging the heavy array power cables, NASA Lewis specified direct burial power cable. The specified 30 m of power cable used to connect the PV array to the R/F was adequate for all sites and excessive for some. The armored direct burial cables proved somewhat awkward to work with both from the standpoint of size and lack of flexibility. The cables did, at times, result in minor esthetic nuisances where they had to be taken along the side of a building and/or into a building through a window.

There were only three problems with the R/F's at startup. The R/F compressor electronic control modules for the Dominican Republic, Ivory Coast/Menee, and Indonesia/Batujaya systems malfunctioned and were replaced with spares carried by the installation team. The Maldives Islands' compressor would operate, but failed to cool because of a low freon charge. This problem apparently originated at the factory and was not identified and/or corrected during factory acceptance tests. The system was recharged at the site (albeit almost 16 months from date of installation) and then operated satisfactorily. And the condenser fan and the thermostat printed circuit board for the R/F in Honduras failed during checkout and had to be replaced by spares sent from the U.S.

There were a couple of instances where the door openings into the health centers were too small to pass the R/F with the thermograph mounted on the front. In some cases, the door frame was cut, removed and then replaced and in another case, the thermograph was removed and then replaced after passage.

Four or five days were allocated at each site for transporting equipment to the site, installation, startup and checkout, and training. Actual equipment installation took from one-half day (Mali and Tunisia) to 3 days (Thailand - hampered by rain and flooding in the array location). One or 2 days were allocated for checkout and training. Travel time to and from the site and logistics of transporting and/or unpacking equipment sometimes consumed as much as an extra day.

The training activity consisted of training ministries of health technicians in system maintenance, troubleshooting and repair, and training the user/operator(s) in how to use the R/F and how to take data. Part of the technician training occurred during system installation when they were encouraged to participate in that activity. The troubleshooting and repair training met with various degrees of success depending on the trainees' skills, prior experience, and affiliation. On occasion, the trainees were observed to have become "saturated" after one-half day of training. In Haiti, a local refrigeration entrepreneur who was in no way associated with the project was engaged to accompany the installation team.

User/operator training consisted of instruction in loading ice packs and vaccines, adjusting the air door to achieve the proper temperature range in the refrigerator compartment (Adler-Barbour and Marvel R/F's), defrosting and cleaning the evaporator, and data acquisition. In general, training the user/operator went fairly well although, as with technician training, the user/operators were sometimes observed to be saturated after one-half day of



training or were anxious to complete the training so that they could return to their heavy workload. In many cases these systems offered the first exposure many of these people had had to refrigerators and instrumentation. The World Health Organization has materials available to ministries of health to train health center workers in the use of refrigerator/freezers for vaccine storage. But, it is unknown how many (if any) of the user/operators in this project had received any prior training in proper use of refrigerators and freezers.

Training at the SPC installations was somewhat hampered by the fact that SPC did not have manuals available during installation (they were mailed to the users in autumn of 1983). SVI had preliminary draft copies in English available during installation although these were of limited use in non-English speaking countries. The English and local language copies of the final SVI manuals were mailed in November 1984. Another factor that hampered training in many locations was the need to use an interpreter who most often was not only not familiar with the technology, but also not a technologist.

An assessment by NASA Lewis personnel of the training activity is that the amount of training that can be provided during installation cannot satisfy all of the technician and user/operator training needs, largely because of a lack of previous experience by these people with this type of equipment. The problem of lack of adequate training, especially for the user, was only made worse at several sites when the trained personnel were later replaced by untrained personnel.

#### PERFORMANCE EVALUATION SUMMARY

NASA Lewis agreements with the CDC and U.S. AID and the AID Limited Scope Grant Project Agreements with the AID host countries all call for a one year period of performance evaluation following system installation. All of the systems were supplied with a complete ensemble of instrumentation and a year's supply of data sheets and blank thermograph charts. Each standardized data sheet provides for two sets of data daily for 7 days. A sample data sheet is shown in figure 12. User/operators were instructed to record data twice daily and to report problems and/or failures. Individuals were identified in the ministries of health or at AID who would receive data from the field and forward it to NASA Lewis weekly, biweekly, or monthly, as conditions permitted. Figures 13 and 14 show those periods of time for which data have been received for each system. Data have been received for about 63 percent of the installed time of the SPC systems (through Aug. 12, 1984), which is notable considering the systems' locations and the torturous mail paths. As of this writing, data has been received from only three of the 10 SVI systems.

Data processing was accomplished at NASA Lewis on the IBM 370 Central Computing System using software developed at NASA Lewis by James E. Martz (NASA Lewis Research Center), and Robert F. Cartwright, and Anthony Facca, (Cleveland State University Graduate Assistants who also accomplished most of the data processing).

NASA Lewis had planned to issue monthly reports summarizing system performance for each installation (see sample report appendix A). That objective proved unattainable for several reasons. First and most crucial was lack of adequate manpower to process and analyze the data and to draft the reports. Since early 1983, the NASA Lewis Photovoltaic Projects Office has

SPC RF-103

SOLAR POWERED REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER  
 REFRIGERATEUR/GLACIERE PHOTOVOLTAIQUE  
 NEVERA A BASE DE LA ENERGIA SOLAR

LOCATION  
 LOCALISATION  
 LOCALIDAD:

BOCAS DEL PALO

DATE DATE FECHA	TIME HEURE HORA	ARRAY CURRENT COURANT - PANNEAU CORRIENTE - CONJUNTO	LOAD CURRENT COURANT - CHARGE CORRIENTE - CARGA	BATTERY VOLTAGE TENSION - BATTERIES VOLTAGE - BATERIAS	ARRAY AMP-HOURS AMPERE-HEURES - PANNEAU AMPERIO-HORAS - CONJUNTO	LOAD AMP-HOURS AMPERE-HEURES - CHARGE AMPERIO-HORAS - CARGA	COMPRESSOR RUN TIME HEURES DE L'OPERATION DU COMPRESSEUR HORAS DE OPERACION DEL COMPRESOR	REFRIGERATOR TEMPERATURE TEMPERATURE - REFRIGERATEUR TEMPERATURA - REFRIGERADOR	FREEZER TEMPERATURE TEMPERATURE - GLACIERE TEMPERATURA - CONGELADOR	AMBIENT TEMPERATURE TEMPERATURE - AMBIANT TEMPERATURA - AMBIENTE	INSOLATION INSOLACION
7-3-82	12 00	15.6 A	5.6 A	13.0 V	109.2	77.4	38.2	3°C	-12°C	36°C	185
	2:47 pm	14.2 A	5.1 A	13.2 V	120.3	79.2	38.8	4°	-12°	33°	203
7-4-82	12 00	16.2 A	0	14.1 V	148.0	86.1	43.0	3°	-12°	38°	220
	3:08 pm	14.7 A	4.9 A	13.6 V	161.4	88.3	43.6	4°	-12°	34°	289
7-5-82	12 00	13.3 A	5.4 A	13.4 V	186.3	94.7	47.8	4°	-12°	32°	257
	4:13 pm	11.0 A	0	13.8 V	202.0	97.0	48.6	5°	-12°	30°	277
7-6-82	12 00	14.4 A	5.2 A	12.9 V	223.4	104.1	52.6	4°	-12°	33°	296
	2:57 pm	11.3 A	0	14.0 V	234.1	105.9	53.2	5°	-12°	30°	315
7-7-82	12 00	17.1 A	0	13.7 V	262.7	109.9	57.4	6°	-12°	40°	328
	3:36 pm	15.8 A	5.3 A	13.6 V	276.4	110.7	58.1	6°	-12°	37°	344
7-8-82	12 00	15.9 A	4.7 A	13.0 V	298.5	115.0	62.2	5°	-12°	36°	363
	3:10 pm	14.1 A	5.1 A	14.2 V	311.4	117.3	62.8	6°	-12°	33°	382
7-9-82	12 00	14.9 A	0	14.4 V	340.1	120.6	67.0	6°	-12°	35°	401
	4:01 pm	12.2 A	5.4 A	13.1 V	360.7	122.3	67.8	6°	-12°	31°	415

WEEKLY  
 CHAQUE SEMAINE  
 SEMANAL

1 WASH PANELS WITH WATER  
 LAVEZ LE PANNEAU AVEC DE L'EAU  
 LIMPIE EL CONJUNTO CON AGUA

2 CHANGE RECORDER CHART  
 CHANGER LE TABLEAU DE L'APPAREIL ENREGISTREUR  
 CAMBIE EL CUADRO DEL INDICADOR

3 REMOVE FROST BUILDUP  
 ENLEVEZ LA GELEE  
 ELIMINE LA ESCARCHA

Figure 12 - Solar Power Corp. field test system sample data sheet

Figure 13. - Solar Power Corp /Adler-Barbour Systems reporting history

			1983												1984												19__											
TYPE			J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
1	NASA LeRC Cleveland	PP													(2)																							
2	NASA LeRC Cleveland	M													(2)																							
3	Tambon Tha Thong Thailand	M																																				
4	Guaimaca Honduras	M																																				
5	New Sandy Bay St Vincent	M																																				
6	Canouan St Vincent	PP																																				
7	Es-Smirat Tunisia	PP																																				
8	Bir Amama Tunisia	M																																				
9	Menee Ivory Coast	PP																																				
10	Ouelessebougou Mali	PP																																				
11	Orodara Borkina Faso	PP																																				
12	Mowagar Jordan	M																																				
13																																						
14																																						
15																																						
16																																						
17																																						
18																																						
19																																						
20																																						

NOTES

PP = Polar Products

M = Marvel

----- DATA RECEIVED

===== DATA ENTERED INTO COMPUTER

===== AWAITING DETAILED ANALYSIS

===== REPORT DISTRIBUTED

===== SYSTEM NOT OPERATIONAL

----- SPECIAL COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TESTS - DATA NOT INCLUDED IN SYSTEMS PERFORMANCE SUMMARIES

(1) Data Received as of 1 Aug. 1984

(2) SYSTEM TURNED OFF DURING PERIOD OF HEAVY SNOW COVER AND LOW WINTER INSOLATION

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Figure 14 - Solavolt/Marvel and Polar Products Systems reporting history.

been implementing a phase out plan in accordance with NASA Headquarters policy directives, and DOE and AID funding limitations. This project suffered a dual fate in that not only was available manpower steadily reduced, but also that project responsibility had to be reassigned several times as personnel left the project office.

A second factor contributing to the reporting difficulty was instrument failures. Over one-half of the SPC ampere-hours meters have now failed. Prior to outright cessation of operation, however, they often would display erratic readings. Sometimes the data could be manipulated to restore its usefulness, but that consumed a lot of time. There were seven run-time meter failures on SPC systems which further hampered performance analysis. There have been three instances of ampere-hour meter problems with SVI systems, two of which have been corrected by installation of replacement instrument assemblies.

A third factor which hampered performance analysis was data quality and sporadic data submissions. Even when, in most cases, original copies of the data sheets were received at NASA Lewis, legibility often proved to be a trial and there were numerous erroneous readings. Sorting out these errors required a great deal of time as the more subtle errors were often not detectable until the graphics were examined, even though an attempt was made to correct errors at all stages of data processing, from data entry through graphics analysis. Receiving large amounts of data on widely separated dates created work load imbalance problems since the data processing was carried out by the part-time Cleveland State University Graduate Assistants Cartwright and Facca.

Figures 13 and 14 also show those periods of operation for which reports have been issued. It should be noted that the data have been processed for all the other periods indicated for the SPC systems, but have not been reported in individual system reports.

The performance results summarized herein are intended to provide an overall picture of the performance of the 18 SPC field test systems, the three reporting SVI systems, and the three NASA Lewis endurance test systems.

The reader should note that the results reported herein are for data that had been received as of 12 August 1984. Additional data has been received for some systems since then. However, for those SVI systems for which no data had been received as of 12 August 1984, it should be noted that neither has any data been received as of late December 1984. It should be noted further that the NASA Lewis endurance test systems were used for a series of comparative performance tests for the period April through July 1984 and some performance data for that period is not included in the system performance summaries, but is in part shown in the figures 17, 18(a) and (b).

Figures 15(a) and (b), and tables III(a) and (b) display the operational history of the SPC and SVI systems. Periods of verified operation of the SPC systems, including the NASA Lewis test system, indicate that they have been in operation (but not necessarily within proper refrigerator compartment temperature limits) 62.8 percent of the time. If periods of no data are assumed to indicate operation (and this is known to be not entirely true), then the systems have been in operation somewhat less than 85.6 percent of the time.

Data from the SVI systems, including the NASA Lewis test system, indicate that they have been in operation 51.6 percent of the time. And, again, if periods of no data are assumed to indicate operation (and there is no evidence to counter that assumption) then the field test and the NASA Lewis test systems have been in operation 98.1 percent of the time.

The most important performance factor is refrigerator compartment temperature. Tables IV(a) and (b) display the amount of time the SPC and SVI systems refrigerators were within the WHO revised acceptable temperature range of 0 to 8 °C. These data were taken from 3-hr intervals on the thermograph charts. If the refrigerator compartment air temperature was within range any time during a 3-hr interval, it was counted as in range for that whole period. Data for the three systems on test at NASA Lewis have been included for reference. The SPC/Adler-Barbour R/F's were within the acceptable temperature range 84 percent of the time for which temperature data is available. And the SVI Polar Products and Marvel R/F's were within the acceptable temperature range of 83 percent the time for which temperature data is available. Some of the out-of-limits temperatures can be accounted for as follows:

(1) India, 29.62 percent of the time low: Temperature measurements in December 1981 showed that the freezer compartment was actually 16 °C colder than the temperature controller indicated. The controller was recalibrated during an April 1982 NASA Lewis/SPC visit.

(2) Dominican Republic, 31.6 percent of the time high: Use analysis and a visit by a NASA Lewis engineer on February 2, 1984 revealed that the health center staff was putting large amounts of water in the freezer late in the day causing the compressor to run all night. The batteries had become discharged such that compressor operation would cease during part of each night resulting in rising refrigerator compartment temperatures. When the solar array had recharged the batteries back to 11.5 V during the day, the compressor would restart.

(3) Guyana, 37.8 percent of the time high: The Guyana system was plagued with several minor problems which separately and together resulted in a significant amount of time when voltages were too low to sustain compressor operation. These problems were as follows:

(a) Lack of adequate training and/or lack of grasp of training by technicians and user resulting in operator errors and problem misdiagnosis by technician (comment 4, table VII).

(b) Replacement of originally trained user personnel with personnel having no training.

(c) Lack of SPC manual until Autumn 1983.

(d) Incorrect data entries (comment 4, table VII) and inconsistent data submissions.

(e) Difficulty in receiving diagnostic data from installation site.

(f) Design error (comment 4, table VII).

(g) Unsatisfactory communications between NASA Lewis and AID/Guyana.

(4) Gambia/Kaur, 36.1 percent of the time high: Very soon after installation, the health center staff lowered freezer compartment temperature setting to  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  and apparently readjusted the air door setting. This low temperature setting for the freezer resulted in excessive compressor operation and eventual battery discharge which, in turn, resulted in intermittent compressor operation and corresponding periods of high refrigerator compartment temperatures.

(5) Thailand, 10.8 percent of the time high: Data indicates that at times large amounts of warm materials might have been placed in the freezer temporarily raising refrigerator compartment temperature.

(6) Thailand, 24.5 percent of the time low: The thermostatically controlled air door was apparently defective as adjustments by the health center staff were unable to raise the temperature. A replacement air door was installed in May 1984.

(7) Mali, 31.5 percent of the time high: This problem is not yet completely understood, because correspondence from Mali is not clear on all issues and the data record is not complete. Thermograph data clearly shows periods during which the compressors failed to operate. One or both of the voltage regulators was replaced in July and the R/F is reported to have operated properly since. However, the data available does not clearly indicate the problem (see comments to table XI).

The next most important performance factors are compressor runtime and compressor energy consumption. The R/F performance specification limits runtime to 16.8 hr/day (70 percent) when the R/F is in a  $43^{\circ}\text{C}$  environment with no ice making and no door openings.

Tables V(a) and (b) display compressor runtime and average ambient temperatures for the SPC and SVI field test systems and the NASA Lewis endurance test systems. These tables show that all systems met the 70 percent or less runtime (disregarding ambient temperatures) except the Dominican Republic and Ivory Coast/Niofouin systems. The cause for the high runtime for the Dominican Republic system was excessive use of the freezer in late 1983 and early 1984 (see comments above). The cause for the high runtime for the Niofouin system was that the freezer was adjusted to operate at  $-23^{\circ}\text{C}$  from shortly after installation to the end of the period for which there is data. Although all but two of the systems operated at less than 70 percent runtime, several of them were very close to 70 percent runtime and at ambient temperatures well below  $43^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Without good data on how the systems were actually used, one can only speculate that these high run-time systems were being used more intensively than planned.

During the qualification tests, each of the three R/F's were operated at three ambient temperatures spanning 23 to  $43^{\circ}\text{C}$ . These tests were steady state tests in that the freezer and refrigerator compartments were loaded with already frozen ice packs and sterile water vials respectively. To gain a better understanding of how the R/F's performed under conditions more nearly approximating actual use and to have reference data with which to compare field test data, a simulated use test was conducted with the three endurance test systems at NASA Lewis in the summer of 1984.

That test was designed to compare the operating characteristics of all three R/F's under identical ambient conditions and under simulated usage conditions. The test procedure was to load the freezer compartment of each R/F with six 350-ml cold packs containing ambient temperature water each morning for two consecutive days. Ambient temperature water in this case means the ambient temperature of the test chamber at each of the three temperatures at which the test was conducted. The refrigerator compartments of each R/F contained 6 liters of sterile water in 30-ml vials. At noon of each day, both the refrigerator and freezer compartments were opened for ~1 min to simulate user access.

Figures 16(a) and (b) display the results of that test. There it can be seen that the Polar Products and Marvel R/F's meet the maximum 70 percent runtime at 43 °C specification when making 2 kg of ice each day. The Adler/Barbour R/F, however, runs about 90 percent of the time in a 43 °C environment when making 2 kg of ice per day. Thermocouples inserted in all of the ice packs established that all three R/F's could make the required 2 kg of ice in a 24-hr period.

Figures 17, 18(a) and (b) display field test systems compressor runtimes as a function of average ambient temperatures. Superimposed on each figure are the results from the NASA Lewis simulated use test.

Figure 17 shows that operation of the SPC field test R/F's generally follows the trend of the laboratory test system except for the Ivory Coast (Niofouin) and the Maldives R/F's. The Niofouin data is the result of the freezer temperature controller being set for -23 °C instead of -12 °C. The reason for the low runtime for the Maldives systems cannot be determined from the available data and information. Differences in compressor runtimes for the other systems presumably reflect differences in use patterns. Figure 18(a) shows a considerable difference between laboratory and field test system runtimes, and again probably reflects more intense R/F use.

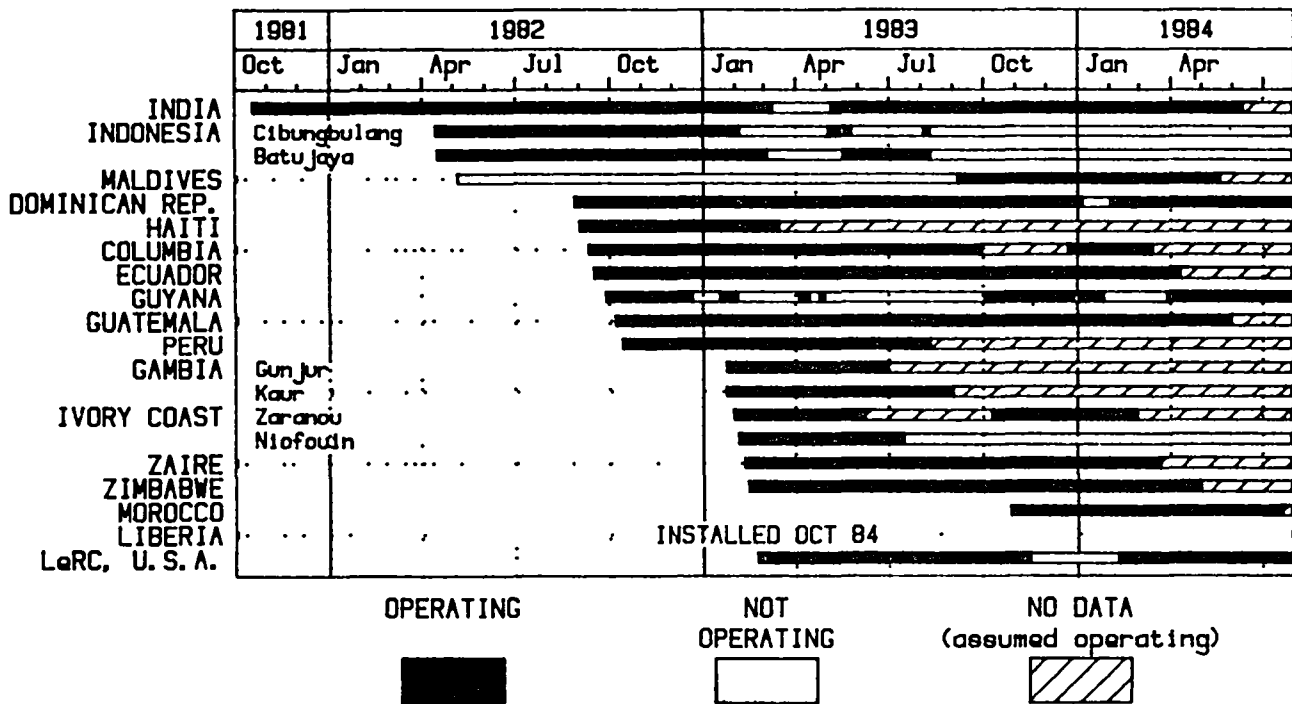
Tables VI(a) and (b) display average daily array and R/F ampere-hour generation and consumption. These data were obtained from the ampere-hour data for days for which there are both array and R/F ampere-hour data.

The range of average array ampere-hours per day is the result primarily of varying insolation patterns, instrumentation problems, and data recording errors. Since the insolation data was not useable, it is not possible to separate and quantify these factors.

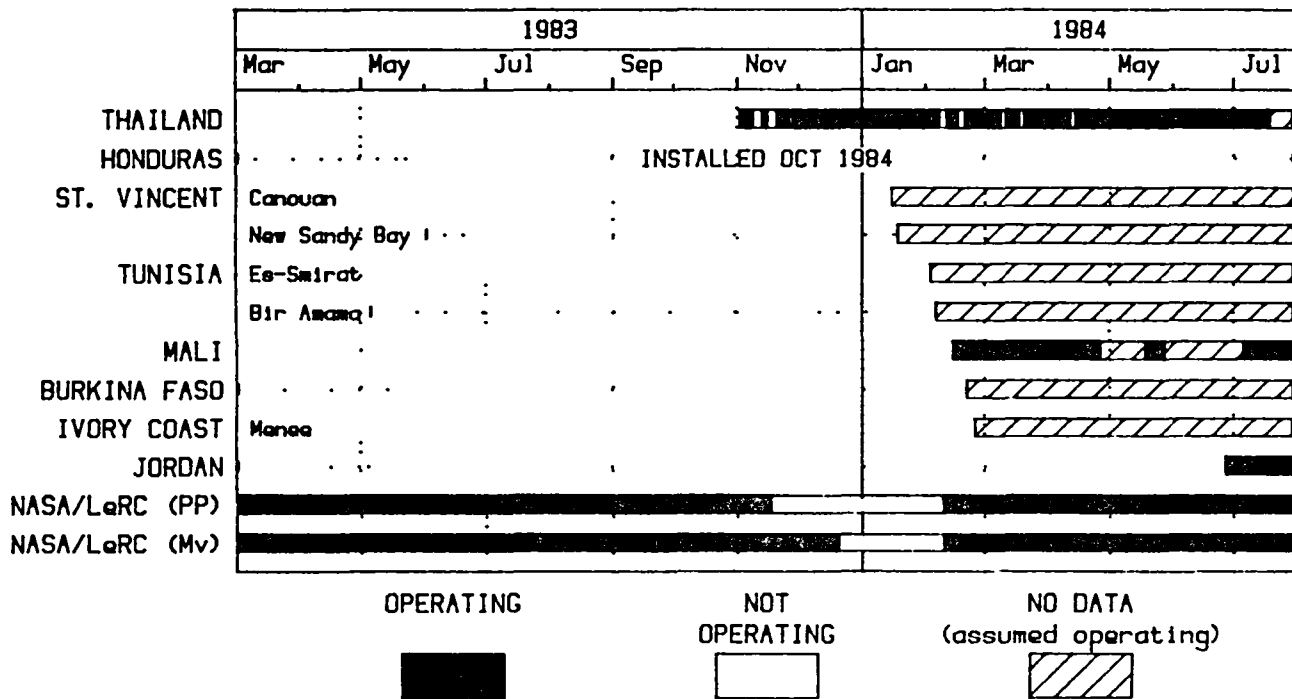
The range of average R/F ampere-hours per day is the result of differences in ambient temperatures, R/F use patterns, instrumentation problems and data recording errors. Again, it is not possible to separate and quantify these factors.

In general, the data on tables VI(a) and (b) show that the PV arrays generated enough ampere-hours to meet R/F demands. Table VI(a) (SPC systems) indicates an array shortfall for the Ivory Coast/Niofouin system. The Niofouin data indicates that shortly after installation the freezer temperature setting was changed from -12 °C to approximately -23 °C with a resultingly high compressor runtime. However, the available data indicates that the compressor never failed to operate due to discharged batteries.





(a) Solar Power Corp.



(b) Solavolt International.

Figure 15. - Refrigerator/freezer systems operating history.

TABLE III(a). - SOLAR POWER CORP./ADLER-BARBOUR REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER  
OPERATIONAL TIME SUMMARY

Location	Percent time verified operational <sup>a</sup>	Percent time known to be out of operation <sup>a</sup>	Percent time assumed operational <sup>b</sup>
India	94.9	0	100.0
Indonesia			
Cibung Bulang	39.1	60.9	39.1
Batujaya	48.4	51.6	48.4
Maldives	77.4	0	100.0
Dominican Republic	88.9	6.2	93.8
Haiti	27.6	0	100.0
Columbia	52.9	0	100.0
Ecuador	83.3	0	100.0
Guyana	51.6	48.4	51.6
Guatemala	88.2	0	100.0
Peru	45.7	0	100.0
Gambia			
Gunjur	28.3	0	100.0
Kaur	39.9	0	100.0
Ivory Coast			
Zaranou	49.2	0	100.0
Niofouin	28.0	72.0	28.0
Zaire	81.9	0	100.0
Zimbabwe	77.2	0	100.0
Morocco	95.3	0	100.0
Liberia <sup>d</sup>			
Averages, field test systems	61.3	15.0	84.5
NASA Lewis	100.0	<sup>c</sup> 0	100.0
Averages, all systems	62.8	14.4	85.6

<sup>a</sup>Based on available data.

<sup>b</sup>R/F assumed to be operational from date of installation to 1 August 1984  
in the absence of contrary information.

<sup>c</sup>Excluding period during winter when R/F was shut off due to heavy snow  
cover on PV array and low winter insolation.

<sup>d</sup>Installed October 1984.

TABLE III(b). - SOLAVOLT INTERNATIONAL MARVEL AND POLAR PRODUCTS  
REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER OPERATIONAL TIME SUMMARY

	R/F manufacturer	Percent time verified operational <sup>a</sup>	Percent time known to be out of operation <sup>a</sup>	Percent time assumed operational <sup>b</sup>
Thailand	M	87.9	8.3	92.7
Honduras <sup>e</sup>	M			
St. Vincent				
Canouan	PP	(c)		100
New Sandy Bay	M	(c)		100
Tunisia				
Es-Smirat	PP	(c)		100
Bir Amama	M	(c)		100
Mali	PP	96.4	3.6	96.4
Burkina Faso		(c)		100
Ivory Coast	PP	(c)		100
Menee				
Jordan	M	100	0	100
Averages, field test systems		22.8	3.1	96.9
NASA Lewis	PP	100	<sup>d</sup> 0	100
NASA Lewis	M	100	<sup>d</sup> 0	100
Averages all systems		51.6	1.9	98.1

M = Marvel

PP = Polar Products

<sup>a</sup>Based on available data.

<sup>b</sup>R/F assumed to be operational from day of installation to 1 August 1984 in the absence of contrary information.

<sup>c</sup>No data available.

<sup>d</sup>Excluding period during winter when systems were shut off due to heavy snow cover on PV array and low winter insolation.

<sup>e</sup>Installed October 1984.

TABLE IV(a). - SOLAR POWER CORP./ADLER-BARBOUR SYSTEMS  
REFRIGERATOR COMPARTMENT TEMPERATURE PERFORMANCE

Location	Percent time in range	Percent time high	Percent time low	Total number of days of temperature data
India	68.11	2.62	29.26	438.25
Indonesia				
Cibung Bulang	93.52	6.48	0.00	61.75
Batujaya	99.06	0.94	0.00	160.13
Maldives <sup>a</sup>				
Dominican Republic	68.36	31.64	0.00	483.13
Haiti	91.03	8.97	0.00	9.75
Columbia	98.56	1.37	0.06	409.13
Ecuador	98.02	1.98	0.00	252.25
Guyana	52.33	37.78	9.88	227.63
Guatemala	100.00	0.00	0.00	6.75
Peru	100.00	0.00	0.00	164.88
Gambia				
Gunjur	97.99	2.01	0.00	198.63
Kaur	63.86	36.14	0.00	207.50
Ivory Coast				
Zaranou	96.89	3.11	0.00	124.50
Niofouin	100.00	0.00	0.00	146.00
Zimbabwe	100.00	0.00	0.00	48.63
Zaire <sup>a</sup>				
Morocco	65.13	0.00	34.87	119.00
Liberia <sup>b</sup>				
Averages for field test systems	82.25	11.45	6.29	3057.91
NASA Lewis	99.65	0.35	0.00	248.00
Averages for all SPC systems	83.56	10.61	5.82	3305.91

<sup>a</sup>No thermograph charts were ever received nor was any reason ever given why they were not forwarded with other data.

<sup>b</sup>Installed October 1984.

TABLE IV(b). - SOLAVOLT INTERNATIONAL SYSTEMS  
REFRIGERATOR COMPARTMENT TEMPERATURE PERFORMANCE

Location	Percent time in range	Percent time high	Percent time low	Total number of days of temperature data
Marvel R/F units				
Thailand	64.69	10.80	24.51	245.00
Honduras <sup>a</sup>				
St. Vincent				
New Sandy Bay <sup>a</sup>				
Tunisia				
Bir Amana <sup>a</sup>				
Jordan	100.00			16.00
U.S.A. NASA Lewis <sup>a</sup>	95.02	2.99	1.99	201.00
Marvel averages	79.11	7.03	13.86	462.00
Polar Products R/F units				
St. Vincent				
Canouan <sup>a</sup>				
Tunisia				
Es-Smirata <sup>a</sup>				
Ivory Coast				
Menee <sup>a</sup>				
Mali	68.45	31.55	0.00	94.42
Burkina Faso <sup>a</sup>				
U.S.A. NASA Lewis <sup>b</sup>	100.00	0.00	0.00	201.00
Polar products averages	89.92	10.08	0.00	295.42

<sup>a</sup>No data available.

<sup>b</sup>Instantaneous temperature data taken from data sheets since no thermograph is mounted on R/F.

TABLE V(a). - SOLAR POWER CORP. SYSTEMS  
COMPRESSOR RUN-TIME PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

Location	Number of <sup>a</sup> days data	Hours <sup>a</sup> runtime	Percent runtime	Average ambient temperature
India	944	10389.4	45.9	<sup>c</sup> 25.0
Indonesia				
Cibung Bulang	255	2568.6	42.0	27.8
Batujaaya	396	6196.4	65.2	31.3
Maldives	159	2340.6	61.3	41.9
Dominican Republic	577	10422	75.3	29.5
Haiti	103	1637.3	66.2	<sup>c</sup> 27.0
Columbia	537	4117	31.9	25.6
Ecuador	565	3407	25.1	17.6
Guyana	297	2938.3	41.2	28.4
Guatemala	555	2370.2	17.8	16.8
Peru	300	924.4	12.8	15.5
Gambia				
Gunjur	154	1888	51.1	28.0
Kaur	80	1278	66.6	30.4
Ivory Coast				
Zaranou	268	2744	42.7	29.7
Niofouin	146	3438.6	98.1	31.2
Zimbabwe	412	2950	29.8	24.5
Zaire	405	6312.5	64.9	<sup>c</sup> 24.0
Morocco	170	981.1	24.1	19.9
Liberia <sup>b</sup>				
Summary of field test systems	6323	66903.4	44.1	Not applicable
U.S.A. NASA Lewis	319	4327.4	56.5	32.9
Summary of all systems	6642	71230.8	44.7	Not applicable

<sup>a</sup>Only operational periods of the run-time meter are considered.

<sup>b</sup>Installed October 1984.

<sup>c</sup>Average noon-time temperature.

TABLE V(b). - SOLAVOLT INTERNATIONAL SYSTEMS  
COMPRESSOR RUN-TIME PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

Location	Number of days data	Hours runtime	Percent runtime	Average ambient temperature
Marvel R/F units				
Thailand	235.0	2926.0	51.88	27.4
Honduras				
St. Vincent New Sandy Bay <sup>a</sup>				
Tunisia				
Bir Amana <sup>a</sup>	16.0	180.2	46.93	<sup>b</sup> 27.0
Jordan	354.0	1977.4	23.30	32.9
U.S.A. NASA Lewis				
Marvel summary	554.0	5789.4	43.54	
Polar Products R/F units - combined refrigerator and freezer compressors runtimes				
St. Vincent				
Canouan <sup>a</sup>				
Tunisia				
Es-Smirat <sup>a</sup>				
Ivory Coast <sup>a</sup>	105.0	1194.4	45.61	<sup>b</sup> 35.0
Mali				
Burkina Faso <sup>a</sup>	321.0	2554.8	33.16	32.9
U.S.A. NASA Lewis				
Polar Products summary	480.0	3603.1	31.28	

<sup>a</sup>No data available.

<sup>b</sup>Average noon-time temperature.

TABLE VI(a). - SOLAR POWER CORP./ADLER-BARBOUR  
REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER SYSTEMS  
AMPERE-HOUR DATA SUMMARY

Location	Array ampere-hours per day	R/F ampere-hours per day	Number of days of data
India	88.3	72.6	56
Indonesia			
Cibung Bulang	85.7	33.5	137
Batujaya	70.5	60.2	107
Maldives <sup>a</sup>			
Dominican Republic	92.7	76.8	186
Haiti	70.0	61.7	104
Columbia	89.4	36.6	154
Ecuador	60.6	24.8	564
Guyana	70.7	49.6	127
Guatemala	66.4	17.8	523
Peru	44.1	14.3	300
Gambia			
Gunjur	103.3	55.9	154
Kaur	107.8	79.0	219
Ivory Coast			
Zaranou <sup>a</sup>			
Niofouin	110.5	121.3	146
Zimbabwe	102.2	34.5	384
Zaire	103.2	80.7	24
Morocco	20.6	24.0	151.0
Liberia <sup>b</sup>			
NASA Lewis	81.4	67.5	319

<sup>a</sup>Meter never functioned.

<sup>b</sup>Installed October 1984.

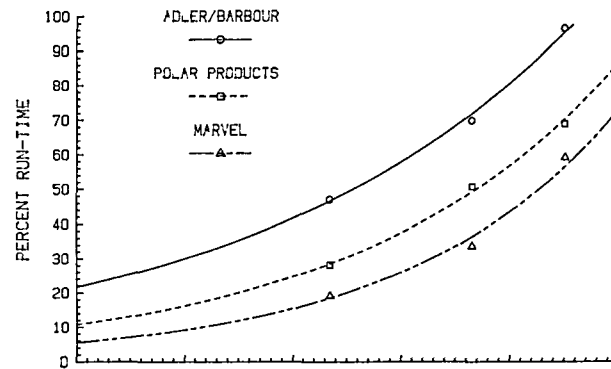


TABLE VI(b). - SOLAVOLT INTERNATIONAL SYSTEMS  
 AMPERE-HOUR DATA SUMMARY

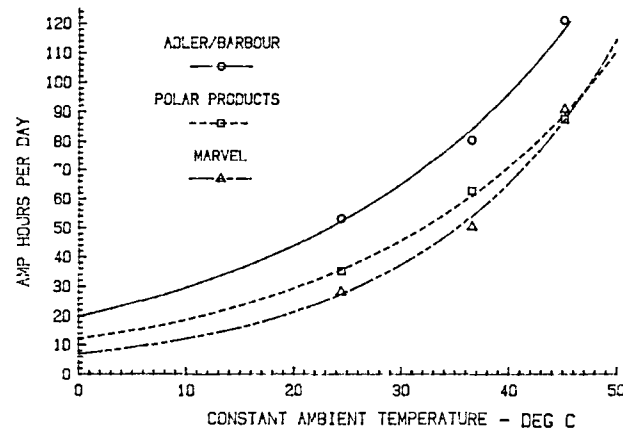
Location	Array ampere-hour per day	R/F Ampere-hour per day	Number of days of data
Marvel R/F units			
Thailand	55.0	45.4	b72
Honduras <sup>a</sup>			
St. Vincent			
New Sandy Bay <sup>a</sup>			
Tunisia	62.8	56.1	53
Bir Amana <sup>a</sup>			
Jordan			
NASA Lewis			
	46.0	43.3	303
Polar Products R/F units - combined refrigerator and freezer			
St. Vincent			
Canouan <sup>a</sup>			
Tunisia			
Es-Smirat <sup>a</sup>			
Ivory Coast	49.5	45.3	b59
Menee <sup>a</sup>			
Mali			
Burkina Faso <sup>a</sup>			
NASA Lewis	46.8	42.0	331

<sup>a</sup>No data received.

<sup>b</sup>Defective meter portion of total installed time.



(a) Compressor run-time performance.



(b) Ampere-hour performance.

Figure 16. - PV powered vaccine refrigerator/freezers, comparative simulated use.

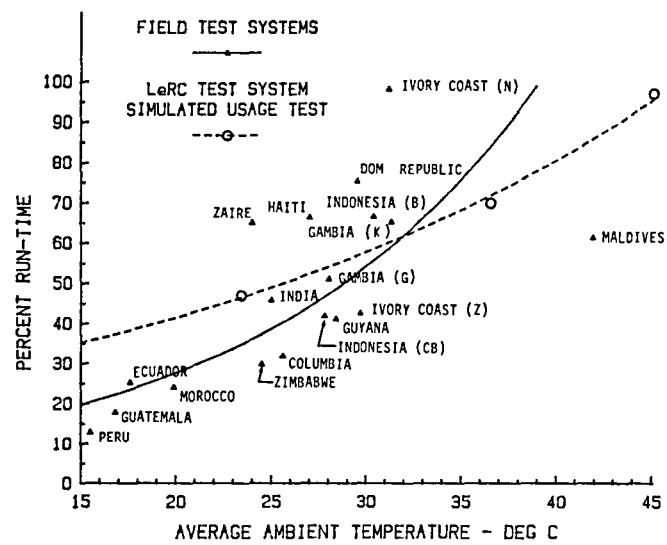
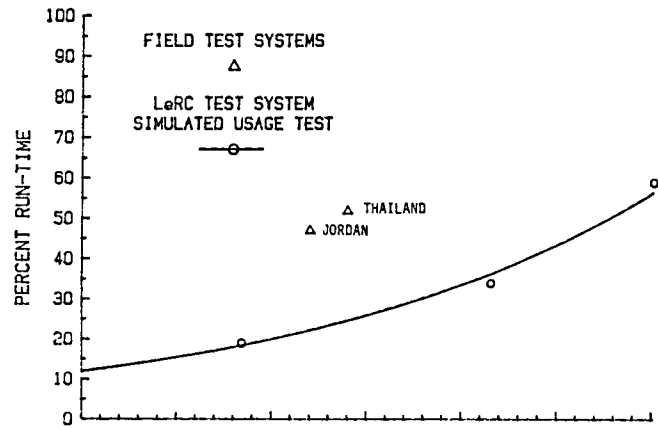
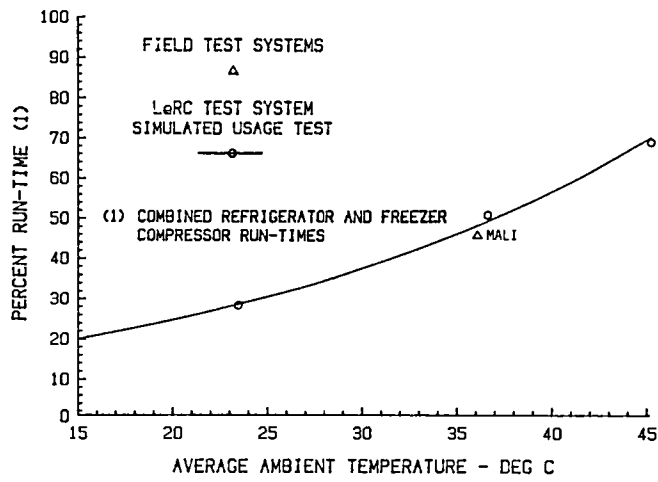


Figure 17. - Solar Power Corp./Adler-Barbour Systems compressor run-time performance.



(a) Marvel refrigerator/freezer.



(b) Polar Products refrigerator/freezer.

Figure 18. - Solavolt International Systems compressor run-time performance.

The general validity of the assertion that the PV arrays have met R/F energy requirements is supported by the fact that there are only two documented instances of battery discharge brought on by array output deficit and which resulted in R/F shutdown. These were the Dominican Republic and Mali systems, and in both cases, discharge was brought on by apparent excessive use of the freezer.

#### MEDICAL CLINIC SYSTEMS REFRIGERATOR/FREEZERS

Referring to table I, six Adler/Barbour R/F's were installed in larger clinic systems. These R/F's were identical to the field test R/F's except that they did not have any attached instrumentation. They all operate from 120-V dc systems through 120- to 12-V dc converters and each has two 6-V, 200 A-hr batteries connected in series to provide a 12-V dc buffer for the refrigerator compressor electronic module.

Information gained from NASA Lewis visits and correspondence indicates that all the R/F's are operating satisfactorily except that in Zimbabwe where an electronic control module was reported failed in late November 1984. There have been reports from Ikutha, Kenya of the fuse in the electronic control module blowing occasionally.

#### OPERATIONAL RELIABILITY SUMMARY

There have been relatively few problems with these systems (excluding instrument failures, none of which affected systems operations). The minor problems that did develop, however, required a disproportionate effort to resolve because of the difficulty in achieving timely and effective communication with the in-country people responsible for or using the systems. Notices of problems with the systems were most often sent by telex, but frequently letters attached to the data or notes on the data sheets also commented on system operation. These notices of problems often reached NASA Lewis weeks after the actual occurrence and very frequently either did not contain enough information to make problem analysis possible and/or contained confusing or contradictory information. Sometimes problems, especially relating to how the system was being used, were discovered by the NASA Lewis staff in the course of data analyses. Due to the often sporadic receipts of data, problems thus discovered would have been in existence for quite some time. A follow-up telex or telephone inquiry was almost always required and often the response was inadequate. Thus problem resolution often took very long, or, as in the case of Indonesia, was completely frustrated.

The communications problems were multifold; e.g., people reporting or investigating the problems were often not familiar enough with the systems to obtain the correct information (most often they were not even technicians); the SPC manuals were not available until some time after installation thereby inhibiting understanding of the systems by users and others; the people reporting problems did not describe the problems clearly nor provide the correct and/or enough supporting information; and transportation to the installation site by locals for problem analysis or confirmation was often difficult and time consuming.

There were only five instances (Ecuador, Guyana, Ivory Coast, India, and Dominican Republic) where NASA Lewis or contractor personnel revisited an installation to correct problems and these only in conjunction with other travel to those countries.

Except for Guyana, NASA Lewis or contractor personnel were generally able to easily determine the nature of the problem and either fix the system or send replacement parts upon return to the U.S. The thermograph in Ecuador, which has a broken gear pivot and ratchet in the drive mechanism, was left inoperative due to a lack of repair funds.

Tables VII through XIII show critical system components or functions and list by site those which experienced problems with those components or functions. Attachments to the tables contain short notes describing the problems. The most striking feature of these tables is the overall paucity of problems. Referring to tables VII and XI, there have been virtually no problems with the PV modules. There have been no problems with array structures. There were only three instances of reported voltage regulator problems, but only one of these (Mali) has been confirmed by laboratory analysis of the reportedly failed regulator. The power cable problem is the tendency of the SPC twist-lock connector to come loose from the R/F socket. No batteries have failed although in some systems they have been discharged deeply, and sometimes often, as a result of other system problems as was the Guyana connector problem or over use (i.e., attempting to freeze more than 2 kg of water a day and/or doing so overnight). Instrumentation has been a major problem and is described in more detail below.

Referring to tables IX and XII, there has been a similar paucity of problems with the R/F's. There have been only three instances of electronic control module failure (two of which were during system checkout), no compressor problems, only one refrigerant loop problem, two condenser fan failures, one air door problem and two thermostat/alarm problems, one of which was a factory wiring error.

Tables VIII and XIII show that apparent user error is a problem, but not that big a problem overall, although the local effects can be serious if the batteries are discharged and vaccines are lost. These apparent user caused problems point out the need for ensuring that replacement users are trained and for additional training (reinforcement) for all users.

Table X shows the extent of the SPC systems instrumentation problems. Unfortunately, those instruments which would have provided the most useful data (the cumulative instruments) were the most failure prone. The SPC ampere-hour meter liquid crystal display failed in most high temperature and high humidity environments. There were also apparent failures of the meter printed circuit board. SPC attempted without success to qualify a replacement meter. The compressor run-time meters also experienced a relatively high failure rate, but, since no meters were ever returned to NASA Lewis, the failure modes are unknown. The Indonesian system voltmeters are noted as having failed on the basis of written communication from Indonesia, August 1983. Data received through August 1983, however, indicates that one meter may have experienced a corrosion problem. The other meter appears to have an open circuit.

The insolometer counters are powered by four mercury cells and have several design flaws which result in accelerated discharge of one of the

cells. The problem was discovered after several insolometers had been installed. The manufacturer refused to effect a solution to the problem, so NASA Lewis modified the insolometer count rate which helped extend battery life, but which did not solve the basic problem. Adding to the problem were two other factors. First, the count rate increases when the one cell becomes discharged. Thus it is not always apparent from the data that a cell has discharged. Users were instructed to check cell voltages weekly to detect and replace discharged cells, but apparently rarely if ever, actually did so. Second, even though NASA Lewis checked all battery cells under load prior to shipment, tests at NASA Lewis showed battery cell lifetime to be very erratic. Regretably, most of the insolation data is suspect and of little or no use.

#### USER REACTION TO SOLAR POWER CORP. SYSTEMS

In May 1984, NASA Lewis telexed all SPC installation sites indicating that the field test period was concluded and solicited information regarding the operational status of the system. The questions and replies are summarized in table XIV. There it can be seen that of the 19 SPC systems, 12 systems are operating, three are not operating (spare parts have been sent to one and it should be operating by the time this report is published), there is no information on the status of three systems, and one system remained to be installed at that time.

Following the telex questionnaire, a detailed questionnaire drafted by NASA Lewis with inputs from the CDC, WHO and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) was sent to CDC, MOH, and AID personnel (as appropriate) at all SPC site countries. Appendix B is a sample of the questionnaire addressed to CDC or PAHO personnel. Slightly different versions were sent to AID and Ministries of Health. Of the 20 questionnaires mailed, only seven responses have been received as of this writing. A separate report will document the results of that questionnaire.

Miscellaneous comments that have been received via telexes, correspondence, and notes on data sheets have been generally favorable. Ecuador, for instance, reports that, because the system has operated with 100 percent reliability, they plan to make that health post (and R/F) a central storage facility for vaccines for that area. U.S./AID in Haiti indicates they are very satisfied with the system. Guatemala's Ministry of Health reports the system there is working well. U.S./AID in Zimbabwe reports that Ministry of Health officials there are satisfied with the system.

The only negative comment received was from Indonesia where it is said the Government health officials are not satisfied with results of the trial because the R/F systems are now nonfunctional because of problems with instrumentation and because costs remain too high. There were problems with the instrumentation in Indonesia as elsewhere, but these did not affect R/F operation. Several of the outages experienced with these systems were the result of the power cable connector coming loose.

TABLE VII. - SOLAR POWER CORP. PV POWER SYSTEMS  
COMPONENT RELIABILITY SUMMARY

Location	Modules	Array structure	Voltage regulator	Power cable	Batteries	Instruments	
India	1		2	4	5	6	
Indonesia						6	
Cibung Bulang						6	
Batujaya						6	
Maldives			3	4	5	6	
Dominican Republic						6	
Haiti						6	
Columbia						6	
Ecuador						6	
Guyana						6	
Peru						6	
Gambia						6	
Gunjur							
Kaur						6	
Ivory Coast						6	
Zaranou							
Niofouin				4		6	
Zaire						6	
Morocco						6	
Liberia <sup>a</sup>						6	
Zimbabwe							
Guatemala						6	

<sup>a</sup>Installed October 1984.

#### COMMENTS FOR TABLE VII

1. Apparent impact damage to glass cover; module serviceable and left in array. Each SPC PV array includes an installed spare, therefore, no replacement was necessary.

2. Voltage regulator reported defective in March 1983, and replaced with a spare by local personnel in May 1983. Local personnel attempted to "repair" defective regulator and in so doing destroyed whatever evidence there may have been to indicate what, if anything, had failed.

3. Voltage regulator reported defective, removed in March 1983, and taken to SPC for analysis. No defect found (see comments on Guyana from table III(a)).

4. During installation of the Haiti and Dominican Republic systems in September 1982, the NASA Lewis engineer noted that the twist-lock connector which is used to connect the PV array power cable to the R/F cabinet did not, in fact, lock when twisted to the "locked" position. Slight movement of the power cable (which lies on the floor) and/or the R/F (which is on casters, can loosen the connector enough to cause an open circuit between the PV array and the R/F cabinet, but not enough to cause the connector to come out of the



socket on the R/F cabinet. Such open circuit could be intermittent depending on further movement of the cable and/or R/F, or long term if things are not moved or not moved in such a way as to close the circuit, (or if the loose connector is not noted and reconnected).

An outage resulting from a loose connector was first reported at the Batujaya, Indonesia installation where the R/F was out of operation from March 3, 1983, to May 17, 1983. The problem was reported as "This socket kept disconnecting. It has since been repaired." There was no mention of what the repairs were. The interpretation at NASA Lewis was that there had been a problem with that connector that was repairable and it never occurred to anyone that it was the same problem observed at Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

In December 1983, 3 months after installation, the Guyana R/F was reported out of operation. Data for the 3 months preceding shutdown showed several periods of 2 or more days of zero array current accompanied by modest increases in array ampere-hours. System voltage was always reported as 12.5 V. Thus, when the R/F stopped operating on December 21, 1982, on a day when array current was 5 A, but which had been preceded 3 or 6 days (a dataless weekend intervened) of zero array current but with increases in array ampere-hours, no one at NASA Lewis gave even a thought to the array power cable connector. Correspondence with AID/Guyana indicated that the operator had shut off both the PV array and R/F following automatic shutdown. There ensued considerable correspondence and a visit by an SPC engineer who replaced the voltage regulator thinking it might be defective (see note 3 above). The R/F operated for a short time afterwards and then resumed a period of one year of intermittent operation during which time there flowed from the SPC, NASA Lewis, and AID/Guyana a constant stream of telexes and letters directing diagnostic procedures and requesting specific data and information, and from Guyana, numerous requests for on-site assistance and R/F replacement. During this period the system operator persisted in shutting off the PV array when the R/F automatically shutdown despite repeated requests by NASA Lewis and SPC to leave the PV array turned on to charge the batteries. And, the local technician was convinced that the problem was associated with the high temperature alarm, compressor and thermostat. The loose PV array power cable connector was discovered by local personnel in March 1983 and the system has apparently operated satisfactorily since then.

In June 1984, during an inspection trip to the Niofouin Ivory Coast system, the same NASA Lewis engineer found the PV array power cable connector electrically disconnected, but physically in place.

The problem with the twist-lock connector is basically one of design selection. It was (and still is) a satisfactory approach to connecting the array to the R/F. The shortcomings were with component selection and qualification/acceptance testing.

This somewhat lengthy discussion of this seemingly minor problem belies the amount of grief it gave NASA Lewis and AID/Guyana. Obviously, if the PV array becomes disconnected from the R/F and batteries, the system quickly becomes useless and in the process risks loss of vaccines with subsequent health implications. But it also points out the difficulties which can be encountered when placing such equipment in rural settings, e.g. inadequate

user and technician training which results in improper use and faulty diagnoses by locals, lack of training reinforcement, untrained replacement users, lack of manuals, and communications problems resulting in an inability to obtain specific technical information from the site even when questions are clearly spelled out. The problem with the equipment was simple and in retrospect we (NASA Lewis) probably should have been able to identify it since we had in fact encountered loose connectors in three previous instances. However, the engineer who noted loose connector in the Dominican Republic and Haiti was not the same one responsible for reviewing R/F problems when first reported.

- 5. Slightly corroded battery terminals with powdery covering. Terminals were cleaned and greased by local personnel.

- 6. See table X for details on instrument reliability.

TABLE VIII. - SOLAR POWER CORP. REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER RELIABILITY SUMMARY

Location	Electronic control module	Compressor	Refrigerant loop	Condenser fan	Air door	Thermostat and alarm	Other
India							
Indonesia							
Cibung	1						9
Bulang	2						9
Batujaya			6				10
Maldives							
Dominican Republic							
Haiti							
Columbia						8	
Ecuador							
Guyana	3						
Peru							
Gambia							
Gunjur							
Kaur							
Ivory Coast							
Zaranou	4						
Niofouin	5			7			
Zaire							
Morocco							
Liberia <sup>a</sup>							
Zimbabwe							
Guatemala							

<sup>a</sup>Installed October 1984.

## COMMENTS FOR TABLE VIII

1. Fuse blown on three occasions which resulted in the R/F being out of operation for the following periods:

January 6 to January 26, 1983;  
February 1 to February 5, 1983;  
May 26 to August 4, 1983.

No cause was ever determined for this problem and the electronic control module was not replaced.

2. Installed new electronic control module during checkout.

3. Fuse found blown in February 1984; replaced by local personnel. No cause determined.

4. Fuse blew in electronic control module approximately June 6, 1983. Refrigerator/Freezer was shutdown for 2 days until MOH staff member arrived to diagnose problem and replace fuse.

5. Electronic control module failed sometime after July 1983. Local personnel to replace module with spare resupplied by NASA Lewis in July 1984. Available spare returned to NASA Lewis for checkout following site visit by NASA Lewis staff, February 1984 .

6. R/F received at site with low freon pressure in refrigerant loop. Refrigeration system recharged by local (Maldiv Islands) refrigeration service 16 months after installation. Approximately 2 kg of Freon added and filter changed.

7. Condenser fan failed sometime after July 1983. Local personnel to replace failed fan with spare supplied by NASA Lewis following site visit by NASA Lewis staff, February 1984.

8. High refrigerator temperature alarm wired backwards at factory; alarm would sound when refrigerator compartment in temperature range and silent when too high. Alarm had been placed in OFF position to avoid its being a nuisance. Repaired during site visit by NASA Lewis engineer, September 1983.

9. R/F reported not operating on April 19, 1984; no reasons given.

10. Rusting of lower part of cabinet reported April 28, 1983.

TABLE IX. - SOLAR POWER CORP. PV-POWERED  
REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER SYSTEMS  
MISCELLANEOUS OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS

Location	User error	Other
India		
Indonesia		
Cibung Bulang		
Batujaya		
Maldives		
Dominican Republic	1	
Haiti		
Columbia		
Ecuador		
Guyana	2	
Peru		
Gambia		
Gunjur		
Kaur		
Ivory Coast		
Zaranou		
Niofouin	3	
Zaire	4	
Morocco		
Liberia <sup>a</sup>		
Zimbabwe		
Guatemala		

<sup>a</sup>Installed October 1984.

#### COMMENTS FOR TABLE IX

1. System out of operation January 5, 1984, to February 2, 1984, due to discharged batteries which resulted from excessive use of freezer at night. Personnel had been instructed to limit ice making to 2 kg/day and to load freezer in the morning.

2. Untrained operator shut off PV array preventing battery recharge when high refrigerator temperature alarm sounded. Apparent cause for high temperature alarm sounding was discharged batteries (note 4, table VII).

3. Replaced trained personnel with untrained personnel. Set freezer temperature to -23 °C.

4. Freezer compartment temperature control set for -20 °C resulting in excessive run-time and subsequent battery discharge. Instructed to raise temperature setting to -12 °C and adjust airdoor to achieve better control in refrigerator compartment which was at the same time too warm.

TABLE X. - SUMMARY OF SOLAR POWER CORP. SYSTEMS  
INSTRUMENTATION PROBLEMS

Location	Instrument								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
India				F	F	P	P	P(c)	NS
Indonesia									
Cibung Bulang		F	(a)	F	F	F	P	P(c)	
Batujaya		F		F	F	P	P	P(c)	
Maldives				F	F	P	P	P(d)	
Dominican Republic				F	F	P	P		
Haiti							P		
Columbia				F	F	P	P		P
Ecuador							P	P(e)	
Guyana				F	F		P		P
Guatemala							P	P(c)(e)	P(e)
Peru								P	
Gambia									
Gunjur							P		
Kaur				F	F	F			
Ivory Coast									
Zaranou				F	F				
Niofouin								P(d)	
Zimbabwe							P	P(e)	P(e)
Zaire				F	F		P		
Morocco				P					
Liberia <sup>f</sup>									
NASA Lewis				(b)					

Instrument:

1. Array ampere meter (instantaneous)
2. System voltage (instantaneous)
3. Load amperage (instantaneous)
4. Array ampere-hours (cumulative)
5. Load ampere-hours (cumulative)
6. Compressor runtime (cumulative)
7. Insolometer (cumulative)
8. Thermograph (refrigerator/freezer)
9. Thermograph (ambient)

Notes:

- <sup>a</sup>This instrument was reported failed by Indonesian authorities but such failure is not substantiated by the available data.
- <sup>b</sup>Back-up meter in use.
- <sup>c</sup>Thermograph spring drive mechanism is easily overwound which results in the drive mechanism not operating. User personnel were instructed in how to unwind the mechanism enough to start the drive mechanism.
- <sup>d</sup>Temperature channel(s) failure.
- <sup>e</sup>Drive mechanism failure.
- <sup>f</sup>Installed October 1984.
- NS Not supplied
- P Problem
- F Failed

TABLE XI. - SOLAVOLT INTERNATIONAL PV POWER SYSTEMS  
COMPONENT RELIABILITY SUMMARY

Location	R/F mfgr.	Modules	Array structure	Voltage regulator	Power cable	Batteries	Instruments
Thailand	M						1
Honduras <sup>a</sup>	M						
St. Vincent							
New Sandy Bay <sup>a</sup>	M						
Canouan <sup>a</sup>	PP						
Mali	PP			2			3
Burkina Faso	PP						
Tunisia							
Es Smirata <sup>a</sup>	PP						4,5
Bir Amama <sup>a</sup>	M						
Ivory Coast							
Menee <sup>a</sup>	PP						6
Jordan	M						7

<sup>a</sup>No information or data received since installation.

#### COMMENTS FOR TABLE XI

1. The array ampere-hour meter failed approximately 2 weeks after installation. About 3 months after installation, the run-time meter also started acting erratically. A replacement instrument assembly was shipped April 13, 1984, and installed on May 8, 1984.

2. Local personnel replaced one or both voltage regulators June 1984. One regulator was returned to the manufacturer for failure analysis and repair. The logic chip had failed. In regard to the other regulator, we have been unable to receive either the failed regulator or confirmation of its failure.

3. Loose connection to ampere-hour meter rendered some data useless. Problem corrected by local technician.

4. The array ampere hour meter failed during checkout. A replacement instrument assembly was shipped in mid-March 1984 and reported installed in late July 1984.

5. Temperature recorder defective (it makes two revolutions per week instead of one) and will probably not be repaired due to lack of funds.

6. The freezer temperature thermostatic element in the temperature recorder failed in shipment and will probably not be replaced due to lack of funds.

7. The refrigerator temperature thermostatic element in the temperature recorder failed in shipment and will probably not be replaced due to lack of funds.

TABLE XII.- SOLAVOLT INTERNATIONAL REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER RELIABILITY SUMMARY

Location	Electronic control module	Compressor	Refrigerant loop	Condenser fan	Air door	Thermostat and alarm	Other
Thailand Honduras <sup>a</sup> St. Vincent <sup>a</sup> Canouan <sup>a</sup> Mali Burkina Faso Tunisia Es Smirata <sup>a</sup> Bir Amama <sup>a</sup> Ivory Coast <sup>a</sup> Menee Jordan <sup>a</sup>	6           1			2  5	3	4	

<sup>a</sup>No information or data received since installation.

## COMMENTS FOR TABLE XII

1. The electronic control module failed during checkout in Abidjan and was replaced with an available spare.

2. Fan found to be drawing too much current during checkout. Replacement sent and installed prior to moving system to Guaimaca.

3. Air door reported unable to properly regulate refrigerator compartment temperature (maintained too cold a temperature). Replacement assembly shipped February 17, 1984, and reported installed on June 27, 1984.

4. Thermostat control transistor failed during checkout - replacement sent in February 1984. Replacement thermostat board was presumably installed prior to the system being installed in Guaimaca in October 1984.

5. Condenser fan reported "blocked" shortly after installation. Blockage removed by local technician.

6. Fuse holder contacts corroded. Fuse holder replaced.



TABLE XIII. - SOLAVOLT  
INTERNATIONAL PV-POWERED  
REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER SYSTEMS  
MISCELLANEOUS OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS

Location	User Error	Other
Thailand	2	1
Honduras <sup>a</sup>		
St. Vincent <sup>a</sup>		
Canouan <sup>a</sup>		
Mali		
Burkina Faso		3
Tunisia		
Es Smirata <sup>a</sup>		
Bir Amama <sup>a</sup>		
Ivory Coast		
Menee <sup>a</sup>		
Jordan		

<sup>a</sup>No information or data received since installation.

#### COMMENTS FOR TABLE XIII

1. For several weeks following installation and several times thereafter, user personnel apparently shut off the R/F over the weekend. No reason was ever given for that action and they were encouraged to leave the R/F turned on continuously.

2. Apparent excessive loading of freezer compartment late in the day causing battery discharge and high refrigerator compartment temperatures.

3. The system stopped operating sometime after a severe storm. The technician cleaned the array and within 15 minutes, the system restarted and has operated satisfactorily since. We speculate that the storm blew leaves and other debris onto the array, covering at least some cells of every array string resulting in essentially complete loss of array output and discharge of the batteries.

TABLE XIV. - QUESTIONS AND RESULTS OF TELEX QUESTIONNAIRE  
TO SOLAR POWER CORP. SYSTEM SITES

Location	Is R/F operating	If "no" when and why did it stop	Is data still being recorded	Are vaccines routinely stored	If "no" why not	Comments
India	Yes		Yes	Yes		
Indonesia						
Cibung Bulang	No		No	No		
Batujaya	No		No	No		
Maldives	Yes					1
Dominican Republic	Yes		Yes	Yes		
Haiti	Yes		No	Yes		
Columbia	Yes		Yes			2
Ecuador	Yes		Yes	Yes		3
Guyana	Yes		Yes			
Peru <sup>a</sup>						
Gambia						
Gunjur <sup>b</sup>						
Kaur <sup>b</sup>						
Ivory Coast						
Zaranou	Yes					4
Niofouin	No	5	No	No		4
Zaire	Yes		Yes	Yes		
Morocco	Yes					6
Liberia <sup>c</sup>						
Zimbabwe	Yes		Yes	Yes		
Guatemala	Yes		Yes	Yes		

<sup>a</sup>AID attempting to get information

<sup>b</sup>No response.

<sup>c</sup>Not installed at time of questionnaire.

#### COMMENTS FOR TABLE XIV

1. Information based on last data (May 5, 1984).
2. On basis of most recent data.
3. Because of high reliability plan to make central vaccine for area.
4. Information per NASA Lewis visit.
5. Electronic control module failure.
6. R/F operation based on April 30, 1984, data.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations regarding PV powered R/F systems, components, installation procedures, documentation and training are offered based on the experiences and observations of NASA Lewis, SPC, and SVI engineers involved in this project. These recommendations do not necessarily reflect deficiencies in the designs of any of the systems used in these field tests nor in the installation procedures, documentation or training. Rather they are intended to suggest system or procedural improvements which will enhance the reliability and acceptability of such systems.

(1) Package the R/F and other system components to be carried by no more than four men; i.e., no container should be heavier or larger than can be easily lifted and carried by four men.

(2) Make absolutely sure that all required spare parts and components are shipped with the system including extras of easily lost items (bolts, nuts, screws, etc.).

(3) Label battery boxes with handling instructions in the local language and also package the batteries in such a way as to avoid their being tipped (since many dock workers cannot or do not read).

(4) Consider using locally procured batteries or cells which are suitable for use with photovoltaic systems, i.e., batteries or cells with lead-calcium grids for minimum self-discharge and hydrogen generation.

(5) Develop a PV array structure design which easily allows the array to be roof or ground mounted and provide all of the parts for either mounting scheme with each system. Label all parts and provide an easily understood array structure assembly diagram for roof and ground mounting.

(6) Provide a junction box on the PV array structure which receives the PV array wiring harness and the PV array power cable to the R/F. Prewire the PV array wiring harness into the junction box.

(7) Bring the array power cable to a junction box in the health services building which can be permanently mounted on a wall near the R/F and then use a short flexible power cord with a positive lock connector to connect the R/F to the junction box.

(8) The refrigerator/freezer should be designed to pass through a "standard" size door (not necessarily U.S. standard) without major disassembly of the door or the refrigerator/freezer.

(9) Design the battery compartment so that (a) the R/F can accept a variety of sizes and types of batteries or individual battery cells, and (b) so that the batteries or cells can be easily accessed for voltage measurements and servicing; e.g. locate the batteries on a cart on wheels which can be rolled under the R/F and locked in place so that the cart can be moved with the R/F.

(10) Design the equipment enclosure in the base of the R/F so that the voltage regulator(s) and the R/F compressor electronic control module(s) are easily accessible for servicing, troubleshooting, or replacement.

(11) For production systems (as opposed to these field test systems) provide only a voltmeter and compressor run-time meter as instrumentation. We (and others) have given the subject of instrumentation a good deal of thought. Some say no instruments. Everyone agrees the amount of instrumentation supplied with these systems is only justified for field test systems. At issue is the middle ground. As a result of supporting the operation of these systems and field test data, we have concluded that a voltmeter and run-time meter are sufficient and desirable for the following reasons:

The voltmeter will tell a trained user at a glance the general status of his power system and allow him/her to effect a modest amount of energy management during periods of low insolation. It can also confirm compressor automatic disconnect and indicate the rate of recharge and, therefore, approximate time to reconnect. Note, though, that this information will be apparent to the trained user, and, based on our experience, such training is of greater depth than can be given at the health post during installation. Hence the need for a training facility (see last recommendation).

A run-time meter can likewise be used to manage the system. More importantly, it is an important and relatively inexpensive diagnostic instrument and can be used by a trained user and/or a technician to detect overuse or other system problems; e.g. low Freon level (high run time and warming temperatures); no runtime at night (automatic disconnect and a problem with the auto-disconnect/reconnect alarm light circuit); using runtime and manufacturers R/F current data, calculated energy consumption compared with approximate battery state-of-charge can indicate adequacy of the array size, etc.

(12) Provide a low power light which indicates when the compressor has been automatically disconnected due to low system voltage and equip the light with an interlock which keeps the light illuminated until the interlock has been manually reset. This feature would alert the user to a problem if the compressor should be automatically disconnected during nonworking hours (nights or weekends) and then automatically reconnected when the PV array charges the batteries to their operating voltage during the day.

(13) Operate all controls, alarms, etc. from system 12-V dc power rather than from separate dry cells.

(14) Provide stacking baskets in the refrigerator compartment for storing vaccine vials.

(15) Provide holders or some other mechanism for holding cold packs against the evaporator plate to accelerate freezing. This is especially necessary in R/F's using eutectic cold plates.

(16) Provide with each system complete user and troubleshooting and repair manual(s) in the local language. These manuals should contain a complete and easy to understand description of how the system operates, its controls and its alarms, easily understood troubleshooting and repair instructions, a complete system wiring diagram, and a major components parts list with parts, numbers, and otherwise complete reordering information.

(17) Installation team should carry sufficient tools, spare parts, and instruments to install the system and perform diagnosis and repair should the system have been damaged in transit.

(18) Personnel (technicians) to be trained and who will have responsibility for maintaining and troubleshooting the system should already have a basic understanding of electricity, batteries, refrigeration, etc. so that the system training can be absorbed and not result in a "snow job".

(19) Health post administration must make users and technicians available for training either at a central facility or without interruption at the health post during installation.

(20) Training materials: Even if only one system is installed in a country, the manufacturer should provide training materials with the system; e.g. an instructors guide to the user and troubleshooting and repair manuals. These training materials are needed by the organization administering the vaccine refrigerator program to train additional and/or replacement personnel and to conduct reinforcement training.

(21) Establish a PV Powered R/F Training Facility: For countries or organizations embarking on large scale PV powered vaccine R/F programs, a complete system should be installed in a central location and used to conduct initial and reinforcement training for users and technicians. The instructors at that facility should receive extensive training by the system manufacturer and possibly even visit the manufacturing facilities to gain a complete and thorough familiarity with the system and its components.

#### CONCLUDING REMARKS

The photovoltaic powered vaccine refrigerator/freezer systems field test results indicate a high level of systems reliability. Since October 1981 and through July 1984, all reporting systems sites have accumulated 488 system-months of operation and have been in service 83.6 percent of the time. On the basis of available data, the field test systems refrigerator compartments have been within the World Health Organization recommended temperature range of 0 to 8 °C, 80 percent of the time with known operator induced causes contributing to a portion of the out-of-range time. There have been no photovoltaic module or refrigerator compressor failures and there have been only a very few other component failures. The most significant problem identified during this field test project is the need for adequate initial training for both users and technicians, the need for reinforcement training, and the need to train replacement user personnel and technicians.

APPENDIX A

SAMPLE REPORT

Reply to Attn of DOE/CDC/AID MEDICAL REFRIGERATOR PROJECT

Site: Comuna Cobos, Ecuador

Date of report: 25 May 83

Address Label

Period: 28 Sept 82 to 5 Mar 83

SUBJECT: Photovoltaic Powered Medical Refrigerator/Freezer System Data Report

SUMMARY

The Solar Power/Adler-Barbour system was installed 16 September 1982 and has operated satisfactorily except that there appear to be problems with several of the instruments. There were significant problems with the data received, however, in that data and the times at which data was recorded were not recorded on data sheets. Copies of four data sheets illustrating the problems are being returned for information and so that these problems can be corrected on future data sheets.

1.0 Comments on Data Received

- 1.1 Data for the period 28 September 1982 to 3 January 1983 has been entered into the NASA computer and processed. Data for the period 23 September 82 and 24 September 82 and 11 January 83 to 5 March 83 was received 11 April 83 and has not yet been processed.
- 1.2 There are significant number of gaps or blank spaces on the data sheets. These are shown as #'s in Table 2. Several of the temperature readings are also missing the minus (-) sign on the data sheets. Data sheets for the period 30 November 82 to 3 January generally do not include the time of day.
- 1.3 The voltage readings recorded show a possible need for more precision. Explanations on how to interpolate the voltage reading and how to read the thermographs are attached.

2.0 Problems/Failures Reported and/or Observed

- 2.1 Some electric cables were reported damaged by mules during the period 8 to 18 October. The extent of damage and/or any repair actions has not been reported. Project funds are not available for construction of fences.

2.2 Ampere-hour meter data for both the PV array and the load and compressor run-time meter data indicate that all three meters are malfunctioning on an intermittent basis. Data indicating the malfunctions are noted in Table 2.

2.3 The insolometer data suggests there may be dirt on the insolometer sensor (see section 4.4).

### 3.0 Comments on System Performance

3.1 The system appears to have operated satisfactorily during the period from September 1982 through December 1982. There are, however, either instrument malfunctions or data recording errors (or both) which are complicating data analysis (see sections 2.2, 4.2, 4.3, 5.2).

### 4.0 Recommendations and Requests

4.1 Please provide a description of the extent of damage to electrical cables.

4.2 All of the data should be recorded on the data sheets. If a meter stops working or operates erratically, please note that on the report form and submit a problem/failure report.

4.3 The time at which a reading is taken is a critical element of data because the time interval between readings is used in several calculations. Please insure that times the readings are taken are accurately entered on future data sheets.

4.4 Insolometer data indicates that there may be dirt or bird droppings on the insolometer sensor. Please inspect the sensor and clean it if necessary and note on the data sheet the date it is cleaned. If it is not dirty, please also note that on the data sheet.

4.5 The attached explanations on reading the thermographs and the voltmeter should be used as a guide to obtain more precise readings.

4.6 Four marked-up data sheets showing typical examples of situations creating problems for data processing are being returned for your information and action.

4.7 Please insure that the ampere-hour meters are not being reset.

### 5.0 General Comments/Information

5.1 Due to administrative workload involved in processing and reporting data, data Summaries (Table 1) will be distributed only to sites to which they pertain.

5.2 Several different sites having similar photovoltaic-powered refrigerator/freezer systems are also beginning to report erratic ampere-hour meter and compressor run-time data. We are working with Solar Power Corp. to correct the problem. In the meantime, please instruct operating personnel to take data carefully so that we can accurately assess the nature of the problem.

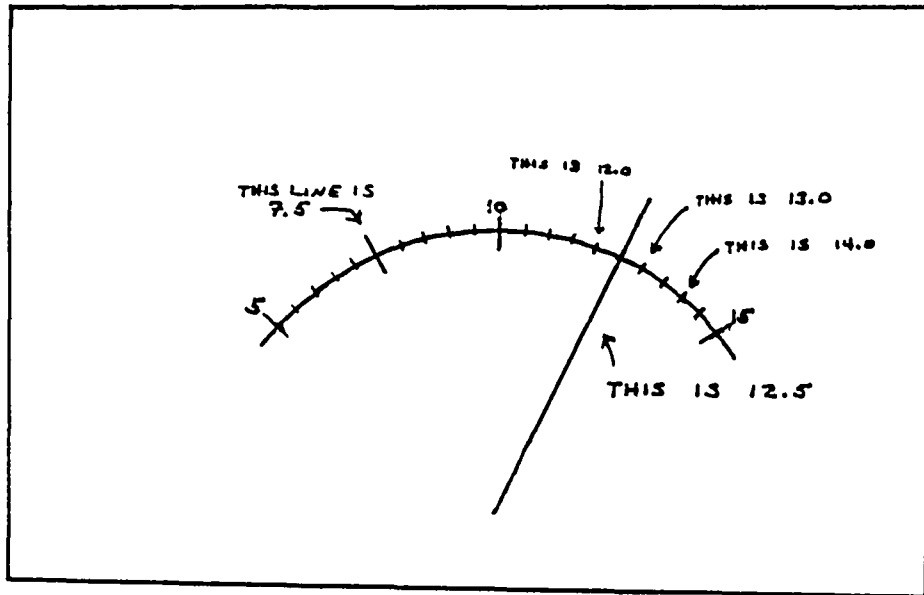
## 6.0 Data Package\*

1. Voltmeter explanation
2. Thermograph explanation
3. Table 1, Data Summary
4. Table 2, Data Listing
5. Figures
  - 1, Insolation, from October, November, December 1982
  - 2, Array Output, from October, November, December 1982
  - 3, Load Consumption, from October, November, December 1982
  - 4, Compressor Run-time, from October, November, December 1982
  - 5, Compressor Operating Current, from October, November, December 1982
  - 6, Estimated Battery State-of-Charge, from October, November, December 1982
  - 7, System Voltage, from October, November, December 1982
6. Thermographs, week ending
  - October 5, 12, 19, 26
  - November 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
  - December 7, 14, 21
  - January 3, 11, 18, 25
  - February 1, 8, 16, 22, 28
  - March 7

---

\*Data from October 1982, only.





ESTIMATE THE READING WHEN THE NEEDLE IS  
BETWEEN LINES

FOR EXAMPLE:

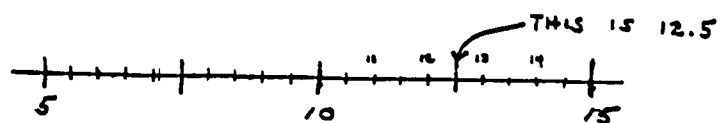
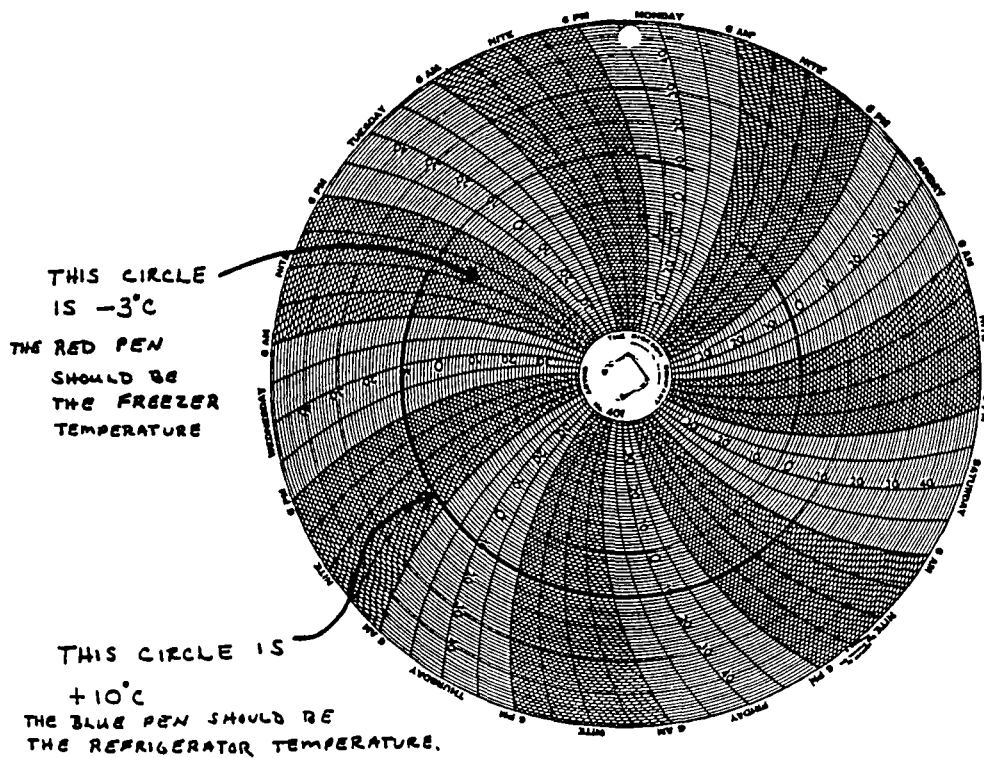


Figure A-1 - Voltmeter explanation.



TEMPERATURES GET COLDER TOWARD THE CENTER OF THE CHART

FOR EXAMPLE:

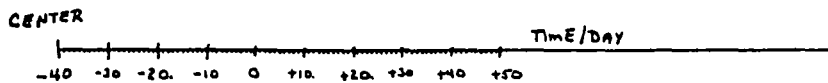


Figure A-2 - Refrigerator/freezer thermograph explanation

TABLE A-I. - PHOTOVOLTAIC POWERED MEDICAL REFRIGERATOR DATA SUMMARY  
(COMUNA COBOS, ECUADOR)

	1982 Sep*	1982 Oct.	1982 Nov.	1982 Dec.	1983 Jan.	1983 Feb.
<u>TEMPERATURES (Centigrade)<sup>c</sup></u>						
Refrigerator: Maximum	+3	+12	+7	+9	+5	+6
Minimum	+3	+3	+6	+2	+3	+3
% Days thermograph charts used	100	100	93	100	100	96
Freezer: Maximum	-12	-8	-12	-9	-11	-10
Minimum	-13	-20	-14	-15	-12	-11
% Days thermograph charts used	100	100	93	100	100	96
Ambient: Maximum	+21	+24	+23	+22	+24	+23
Minimum	+16	+11	+13	+14	+12	+13
% Days thermograph charts used	100	81	83	90	100	82
<u>COMPRESSOR RUNTIME</u>						
% Runtime	22.6	22.5	22.2	R	NP	NP
% Possible data points available <sup>b</sup>	13	69	70	82		
<u>LOAD CONSUMPTION</u>						
Watt-hours per day <sup>d</sup>	272	276	269.3	R	NP	NP
% Possible data points available <sup>b</sup>	13	71	68	82		
<u>COMPRESSOR OPERATING CURRENT</u>						
Amperes	3.9	3.8	4.1	4.1	NP	NP
<u>INSOLATION</u>						
Langleys per day	477.7	R	264.1 <sup>a</sup>	332.8 <sup>a</sup>	NP	NP
% Possible data points available <sup>b</sup>	13	R	42	63		
<u>ARRAY OUTPUT</u>						
Watt-hours per day <sup>d</sup>	1013	849	R	761.7	NP	NP
% Possible data points available <sup>b</sup>	13	79	92	85		
<u>SYSTEM VOLTAGE</u>						
Average of readings (volts)	13.3	13.2	13.2	12.9	NP	NP
% Possible data points available <sup>b</sup>	13	83.9	95	82.2		
<u>ESTIMATED BATTERY STATE-OF-CHARGE</u>						
% Maximum	100	100	100	100	NP	NP
% Minimum	100	100	96.7	R		

<sup>a</sup> - Indication of probable instrument failure

<sup>b</sup> - Percent possible data points available = [(number of data points available) divided by (number of days per month x 2)] x 100

<sup>c</sup> - Temperatures from readings and/or thermograph charts

<sup>d</sup> - Assumes constant voltage of 13 volts

\* - Partial month (system start-up)

NP - Data not processed

R - Data error(s) - data requires reprocessing

NASA LeRC 25 May 1983

TABLE A-II. - MEDICAL REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER PROCESSED DATA  
(COMUNA COBOS, ECUADOR)

NASA LERC 2 MARCH 1983

YEAR	MONTH	DAY	TIME	ARRAY CURRENT	SYSTEM VOLTAGE	LOAD CURRENT	ARRAY AMP HOUR	LOAD AMP HOUR	COMPRESSOR RUN TIME	REFRIGERATOR TEMPERATURE	FREEZER TEMPERATURE	AMBIENT	INSOLOMETER COUNT
1982	9	23	10 13	7.5	12.5	4.9	19.6	3.3	9.8	13	-5	17	5
1983	9	24	12 0	7.5	14.0	0.0	86.6	30.1	16.7	3	-12	18	61
1982	9	28	12 0	#	#	#	#	#	#	3	-12C	16	#
1982	9	28	16 0	#	#	#	#	#	#	3	-12C	16	#
1982	9	29	12 0	#	#	#	#	#	#	3	-12C	17	#
1982	9	29	16 0	#	#	#	#	#	#	3	-12C	17	#
1982	9	30	12 0	#	#	#	#	#	#	3	-12C	21	#
1982	9	30	16 0	#	#	#	#	#	#	3	-12C	21	#
1982	10	1	12 0	#	#	#	#	#	#	3	-13C	17	#
1982	10	1	16 0	#	#	#	#	#	#	3	-13C	15	#
1982	10	2	12 0	#	#	#	#	#	#	3	-13C	19	#
1982	10	2	16 0	#	#	#	#	#	#	3	-13C	19	#
1982	10	3	12 0	#	#	#	#	#	#	3	-13C	11	#
1982	10	3	16 0	#	#	#	#	#	#	3	-13C	11	#
1982	10	4	12 0	#	#	#	#	#	#	3	-13C	11	#
1982	10	4	16 0	#	#	#	#	#	#	3	-13C	11	#
1982	10	5	12 0	11.0	13.5	0.0	810.8	229.6	67.4	5	-12	21	637
1982	10	5	16 30	2.0	14.5	0.0	855.5	233.5	68.4	4	-13	23	669
1982	10	7	12 0	16.0	13.0	0.0	988.6	270.8	78.0	3	-13	21	772
1982	10	7	16 20	0.0	12.5	5.0	10.8	275.2	79.2	3	-13	18	788
1982	10	8	12 0	16.0	13.0	0.0	49.2	292.8	83.7	3	-13	20	817
1982	10	8	16 15	0.0	12.5	5.0	73.9	297.9	85.1	3	-12	#	836
1982	10	9	12 0	16.0	14.5	0.0	84.2C	#	#	3	-13	#	876
1982	10	9	16 0	4.0	13.0	0.0	134.5	318.6	90.4	3	-14	#	9
1982	10	10	12 0	10.0	13.0	5.0	157.3	336.4	94.9	3	-14	#	902
1982	10	10	16 0	2.0	14.0	0.0	181.0	339.7	95.7	3	-14	#	920
1982	10	11	12 0	10.0	14.0	#	201.1	356.8	100.0	3	-13	#	936
1982	10	11	16 0	6.0	15.0	0.0	229.9	359.9	#	3	-14	#	958
1982	10	12	12 0	14.0	13.0	0.0	265.5	376.7	105.1	3	-12	#	986
1982	10	12	16 0	3.0	14.0	0.0	298.5	380.6	106.1	3	-12	#	1011
1982	10	13	12 0	16.0	13.0	0.0	352.4	398.1	110.6	3	-13	#	1051
1982	10	13	16 19	2.5	14.5	0.0	393.8	401.9	111.5	3	-13	21	1084
1982	10	14	12 0	7.6	13.5	5.2	423.7	419.8	115.9	3	-13	19	1108
1982	10	14	16 0	3.0	12.5	0.0	461.6	436.7	117.0	3	-12	#	1135
1982	10	15	12 0	10.0	14.0	5.3	482.2	442.0	121.4	3	-13C	#	1153
1982	10	15	16 15	5.0	13.0	0.0	512.9	446.0	122.4	3	-13C	#	1177
1982	10	16	12 0	9.0	13.0	0.0	555.3	463.7	127.0	3	-13C	18	1209
1982	10	16	16 5	3.0	13.0	0.0	581.0	466.9	127.0	#	-13	#	1228

READING ERROR CODES: \* INSTRUMENT FAILURE/MALFUNCTION  
# MISSING READING  
\$ MISTAKE IN READING, NOT CORRECTABLE  
? READING NOT LEGIBLE  
d READING SUSPECT, DATA POINT DISCARDED  
C READING CORRECTED WITH ASSUMED VALUE

Table A-II - Continued

NASA LERC 2 MARCH 1983

YEAR	MONTH	DAY	TIME	ARRAY CURRENT	SYSTEM VOLTAGE	LOAD CURRENT	ARRAY AMP HOUR	LOAD AMP HOUR	COMPRESSOR RUN TIME	REFRIGERATOR	FREEZER	AMBIENT	INSOLOMETER COUNT
											TEMPERATURE		
1982	10	17	12 0	7.0	14.0	0.0	602.7	483.9	#	#	-13	#	1246
1982	10	17	16C 0C	4.0	13.0	0.0	619.0	487.3	133.0	#	-13	#	1259
1982	10	18	12 0	10.0	12.5	0.0	#	#	#	#	-13	#	a
1982	10	18	16C 0C	3.0	14.0	0.0	677.7	506.6	138.0	#	-12	#	a
1982	10	19	12 0	6.5	13.0	5.8	704.9	522.6	142.2	8	-17C	18	1328
1982	10	19	16 0	2.5	12.5	0.0	729.7	525.6	143.0	8	-18C	19	1347
1982	10	20	12 0	15.0	13.0	0.0	790.6	543.3	147.5	8	-18C	19	1393
1982	10	20	16 15	3.0	12.5	a 3.0	802.9	546.4	149.0	8	-18C	19	1402
1982	10	21	12 0	7.5	13.5	0.0	858.5	561.8	153.2	8	-18C	20	1442
1982	10	21	16 14	2.5	12.5	5.6	873.8	564.5	155.0	8	-18C	16	1465
1982	10	22	12 0	10.0	13.0	0.0	911.3	587.1	158.2	9	-18C	19	1487
1982	10	22	16C 0C	3.0	13.5	4.0	935.6	590.4	159.0	8	-19C	19	1505
1982	10	23	12 0	3.0	12.5	a 3.0	937.4	624.4	#	8	-19C	19	1534
1982	10	23	16C 0C	4.0	13.0	0.0	1.0	#	164.0	9	-18C	18	1545
1982	10	24	12 0	3.0	13.5	4.6	19.2	#	#	8	-19C	19	a
1982	10	24	16C 0C	2.5	12.0	a 3.0	#	#	#	8	-19C	16	1568
1982	10	25	12 0	13.0	14.0	0.0	64.1	#	174.0	9	-19C	18	1609
1982	10	25	16C 0C	0.0	12.0	#	88.1	653.0	174.8	8	-19C	18	1619
1982	10	26	12 0	18.0	13.0	0.0	131.9	669.8	179.1	7	-21C	18	1652
1982	10	26	16 10	2.0	12.5	5.0	147.0	675.3	180.4	7	-22C	18	1663
1982	10	27	12 0	16.5	13.0	0.0	184.1	693.0	184.9	8	-18C	17	1691
1982	10	27	16 0	3.0	13.0	0.0	224.1	700.7	186.6	-1	-8C	20	1720
1982	10	28	12 0	9.0	13.0	0.0	256.1	718.7	191.2	6	-8	17	1745
1982	10	28	16 0	2.5	12.5	5.0	276.2	722.3	192.1	6	-12	18	1760
1982	10	29	12 0	10.0	13.0	0.0	309.5	738.7	196.3	6	-13	19	1786
1982	10	29	16C 0C	1.0	12.5	5.0	343.7	744.4	197.7	6	-13C	20	1810
1982	10	30	12 0	17.0	13.0	0.0	391.4	762.4	202.2	6	-13C	21	1847
1982	10	30	16C 0C	4.0	14.0	0.0	439.9	766.3	#	6	-13C	19	1865
1982	10	31	12 0	0.0	13.0	5.0	#	#	#	6	-13	#	*
1982	10	31	16C 0C	4.0	14.0	0.0	498.6	#	208.4	6	-12	#	*
1982	11	1	12 0	7.0	14.0	0.0	523.5	804.0	212.9	6	-12	#	*
1982	11	1	16C 0C	4.0	14.0	0.0	547.0	807.4	#	6	-12	#	*
1982	11	2	12 0	18.0	13.0	a 3.0	593.4	824.3	218.7	#	-13C	#	*
1982	11	2	16C 0C	1.0	13.0	0.0	612.8	827.0	219.0	#	-13C	#	*
1982	11	3	12 0	0.0	13.0	0.0	647.3	845.2	223.9	#	-13	#	*
1982	11	3	16C 0C	12.0	13.0	0.0	659.2	848.0	224.0	#	-13	#	*
1982	11	4	12 0	8.5	13.5	5.4	704.8	862.5	227.8	6	-13	20	*
1982	11	4	16 15	3.0	13.5	0.0	730.8	866.2	228.0	6	-14C	21	*

READING ERROR CODES: \* INSTRUMENT FAILURE/MALFUNCTION  
 # MISSING READING  
 \$ MISTAKE IN READING, NOT CORRECTABLE  
 ? READING NOT LEGIBLE  
 a READING SUSPECT, DATA POINT DISCARDED  
 C READING CORRECTED WITH ASSUMED VALUE

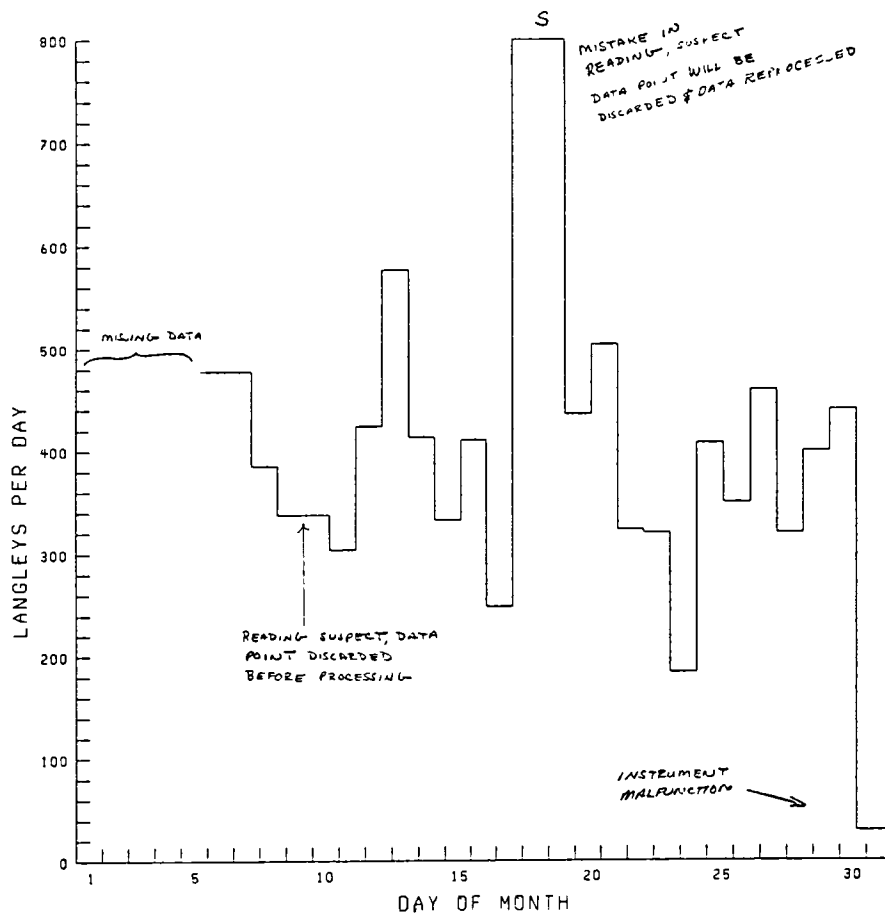


Figure A-3 - Isolation from October 1982, Comuna Cobos, Ecuador (S, indicates suspect data point )

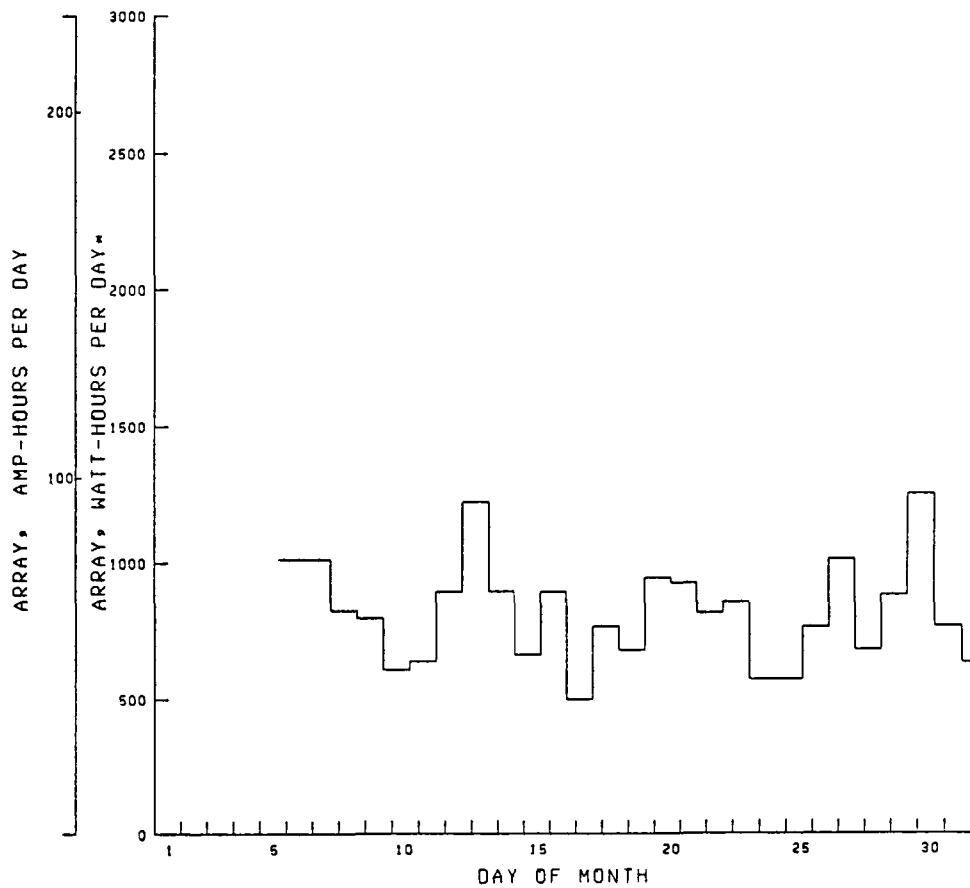


Figure A-4 - Array out put from October 1982, Comuna Cobos, Ecuador (Assumes average of 13 volts )

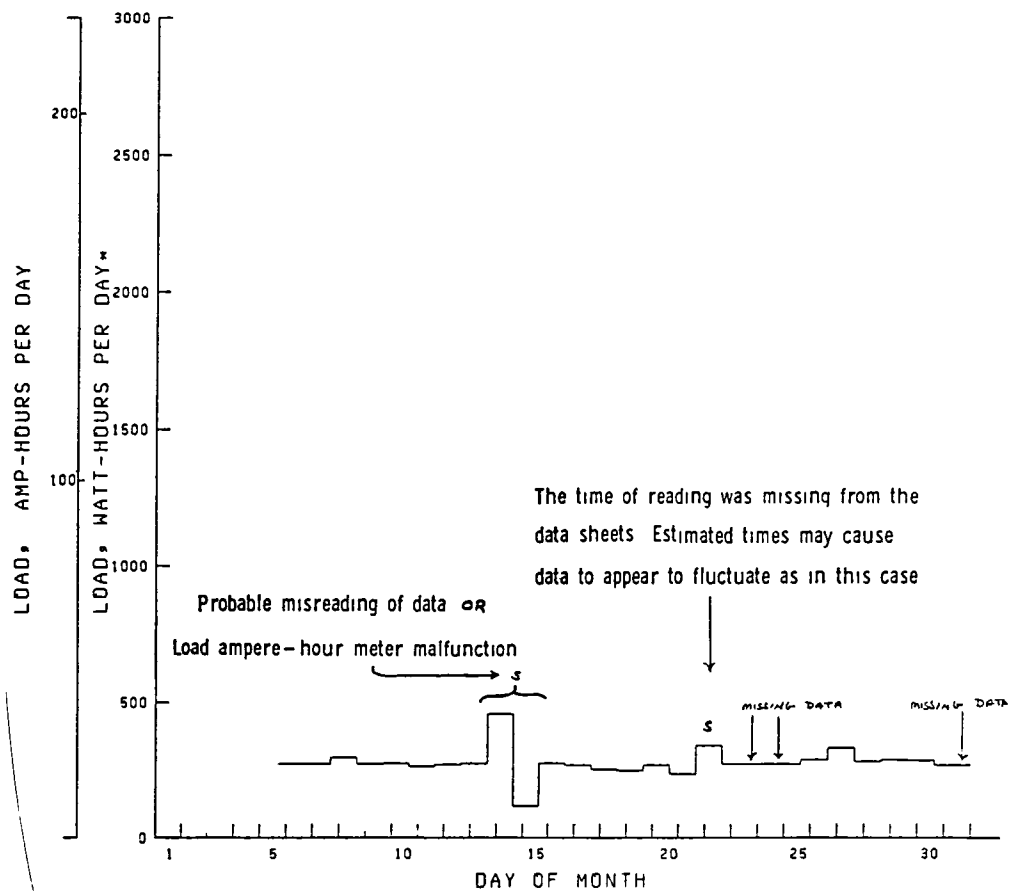


Figure A-5 - Load consumption from October 1982, Comuna Cobos, Ecuador (\*Assumes average of 13 volts, S, indicates suspect data point)



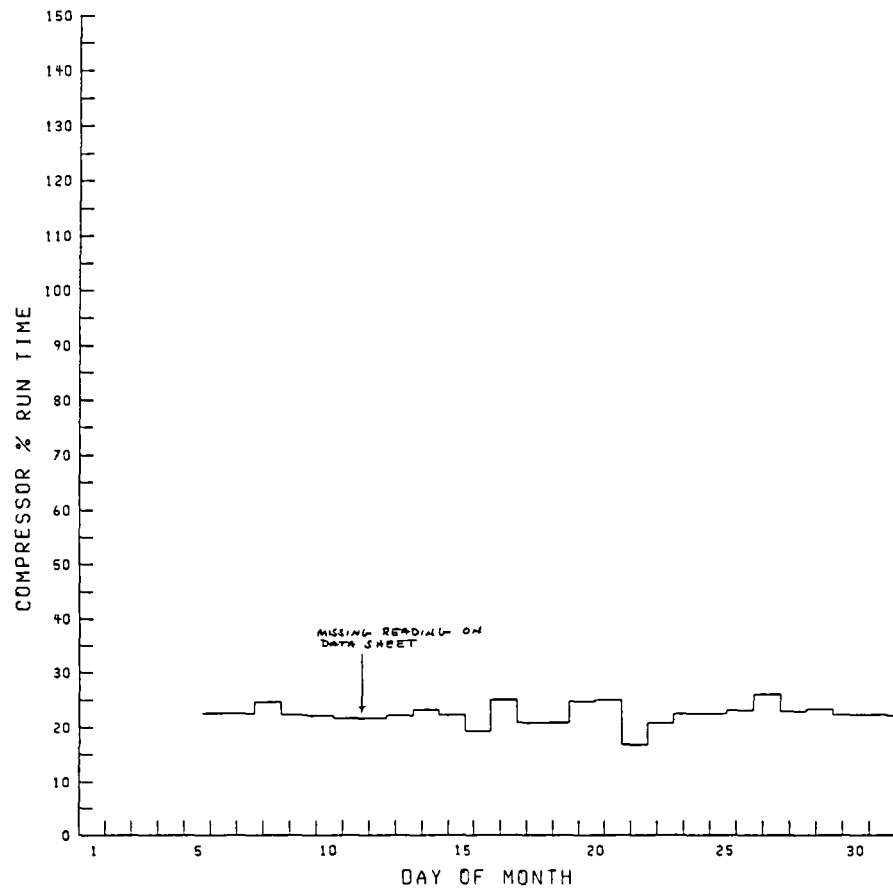


Figure A-6 - Compressor run time from October 1982, Comuna Cobos, Ecuador

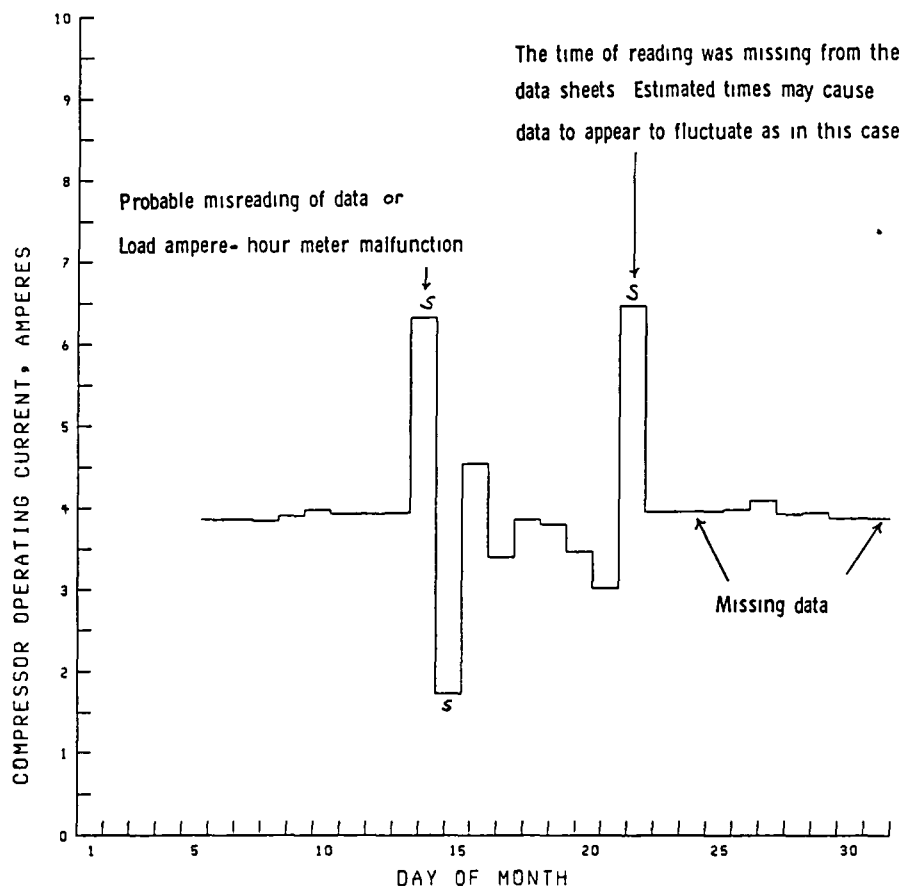


Figure A-7 - Compressor operating current from October 1982, Comuna Cobos, Ecuador (S, indicates suspect data point )

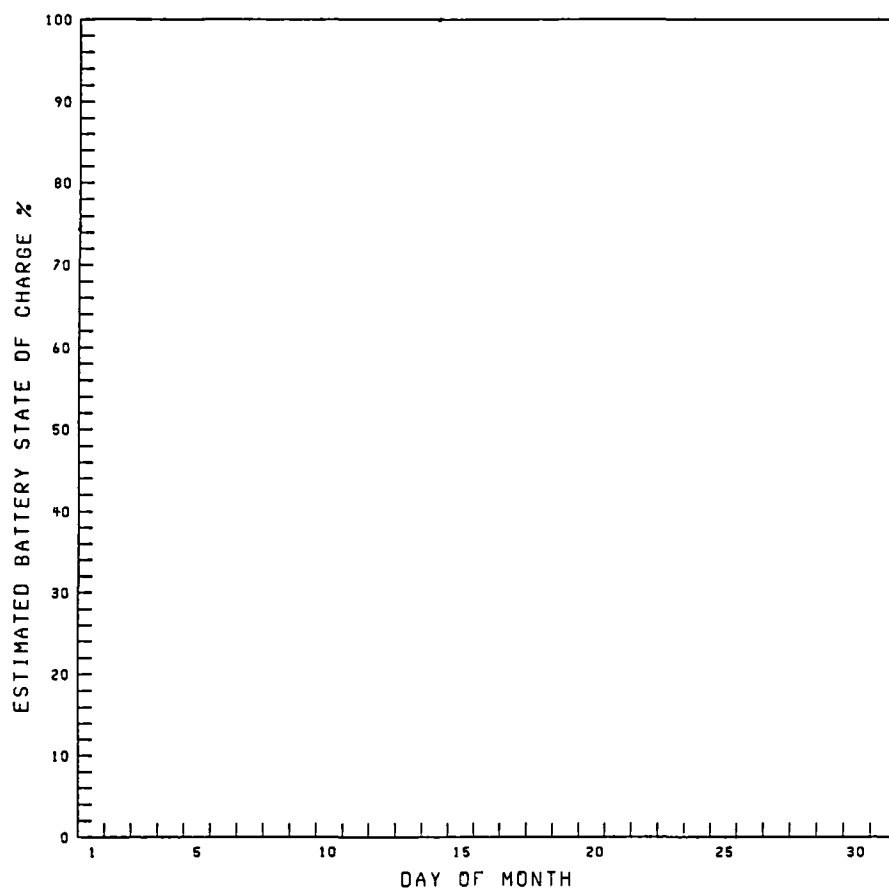


Figure A-8. - Estimated battery state of charge from October 1982, Comuna Cobos, Ecuador

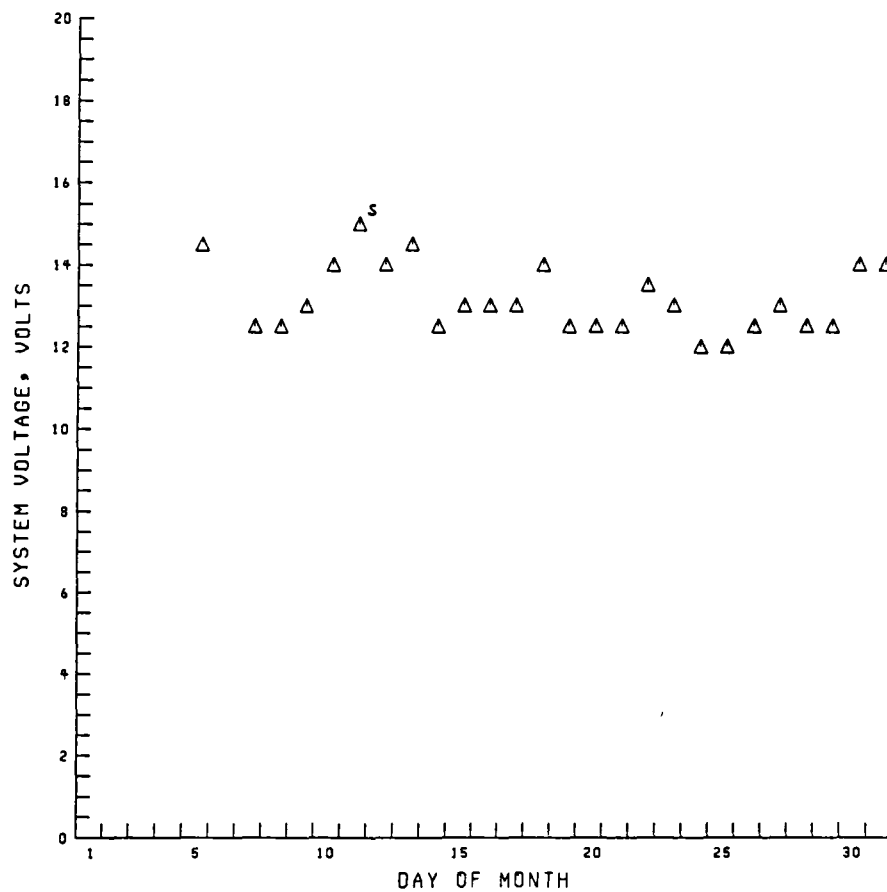


Figure A-9 - System voltage (instantaneous) from October 1982, Comuna Cobos, Ecuador (S, indicates suspect data point )

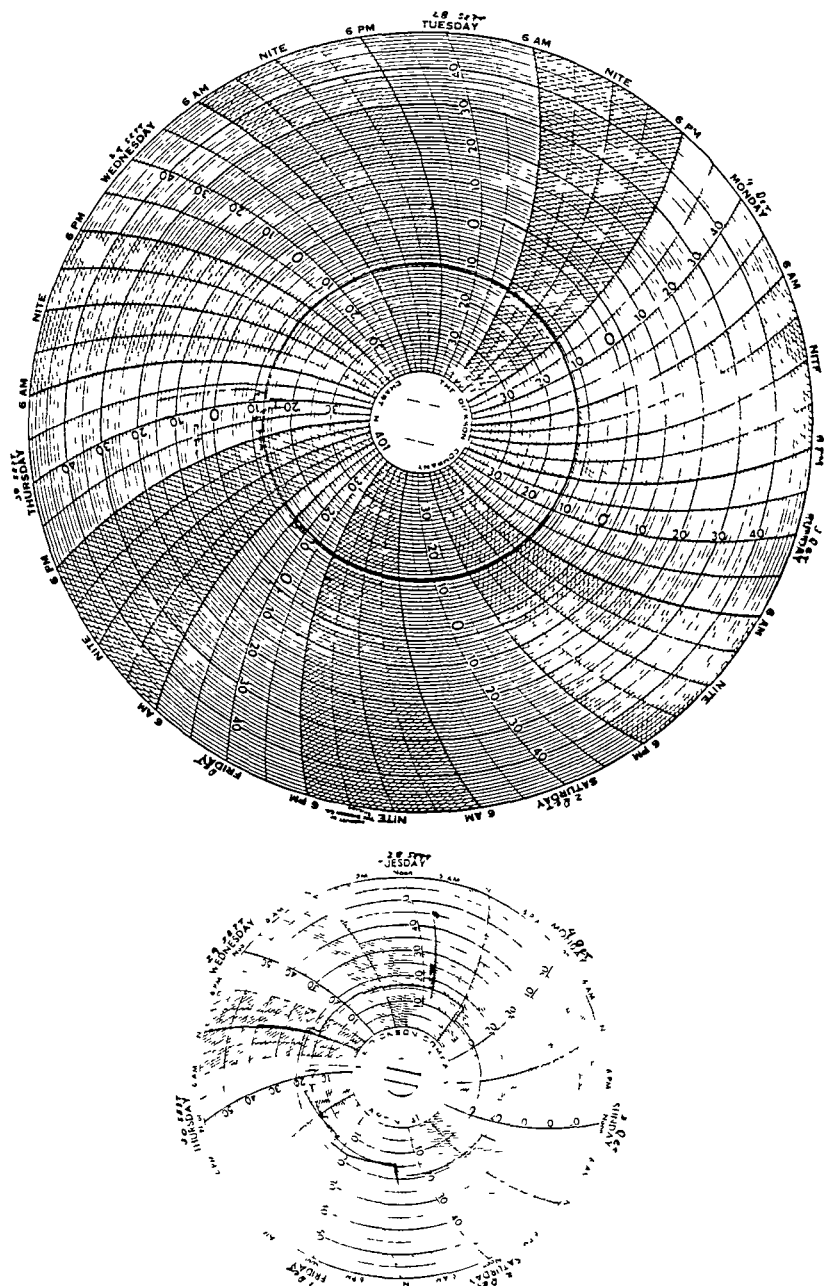


Figure A-10 - Refrigerator/freezer and ambient thermographs installed September 28, 1982, removed October 4, 1982

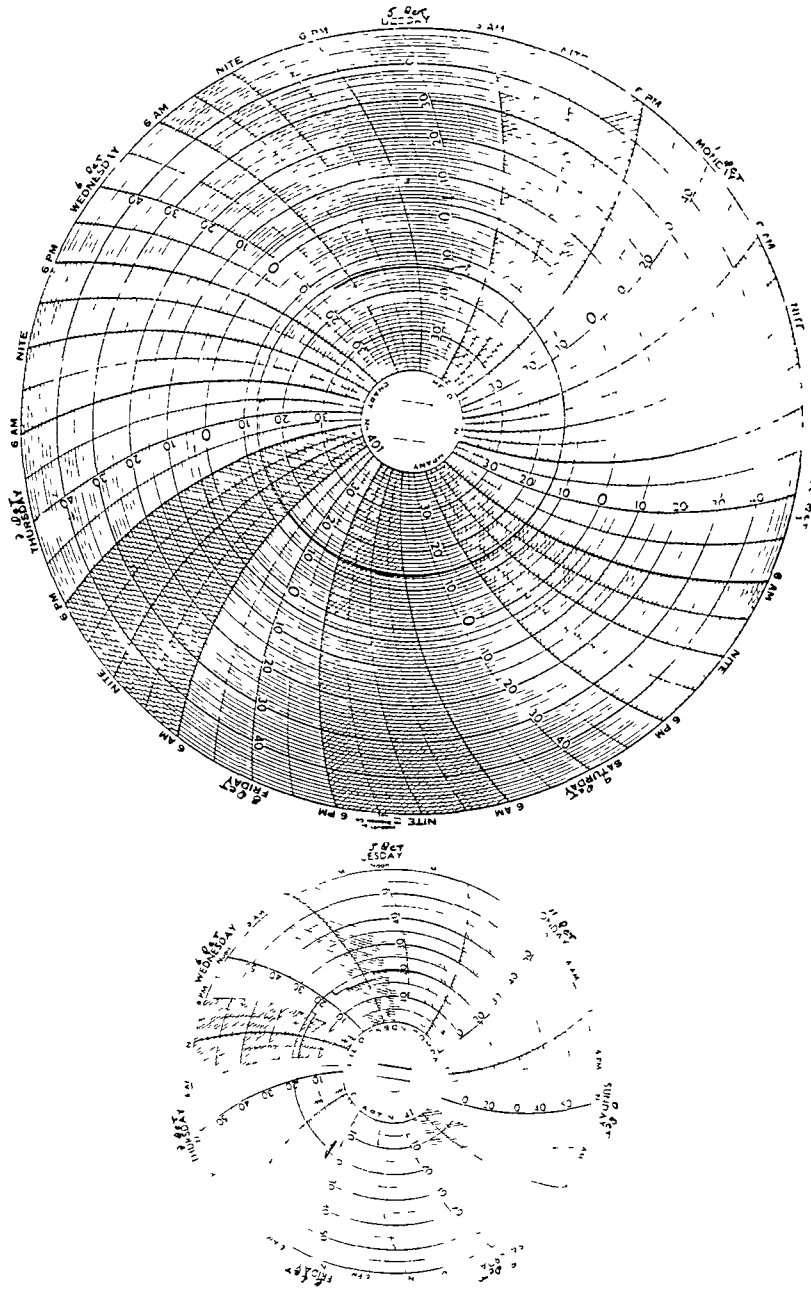


Figure A-11 - Refrigerator/freezer and ambient thermographs installed October 5, 1982, removed October 11, 1982

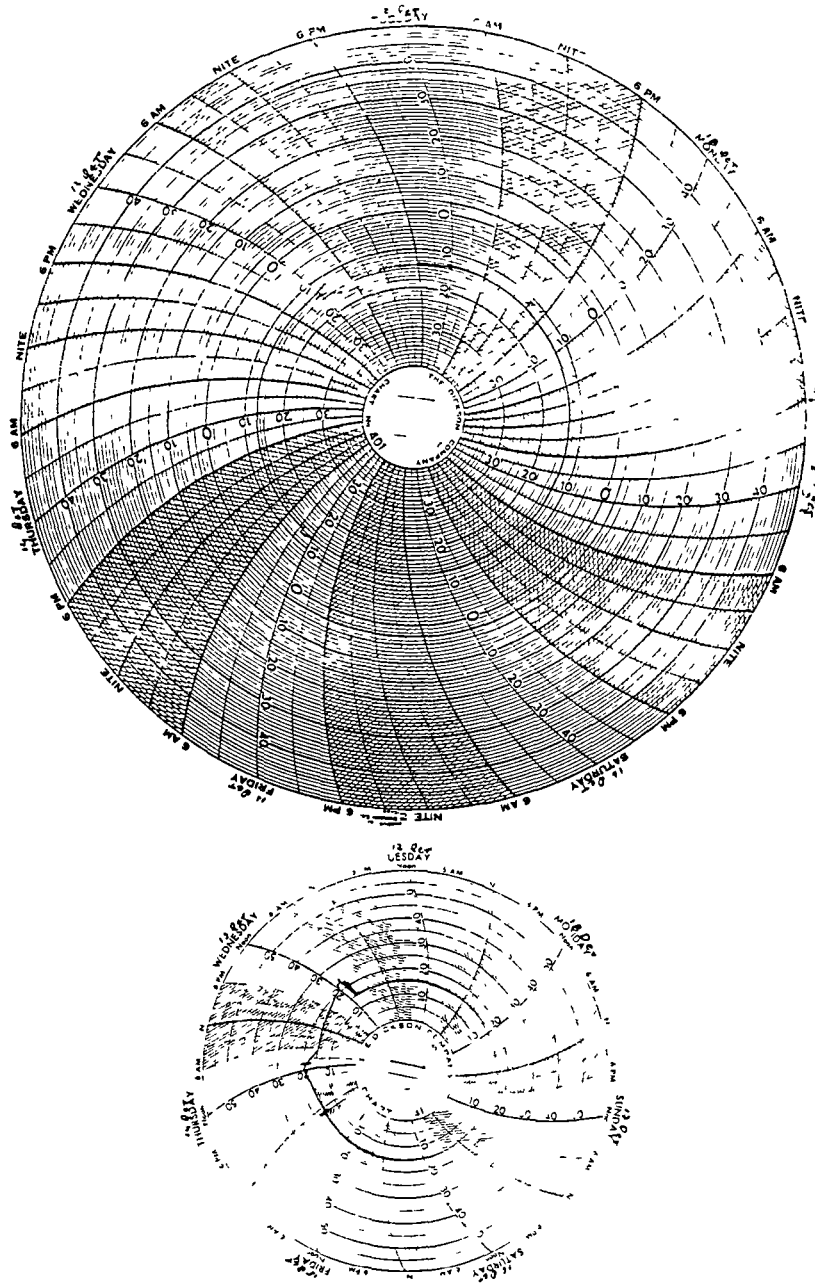


Figure A-12 - Refrigerator/freezer and ambient thermographs installed October 12, 1982, removed October 18, 1982

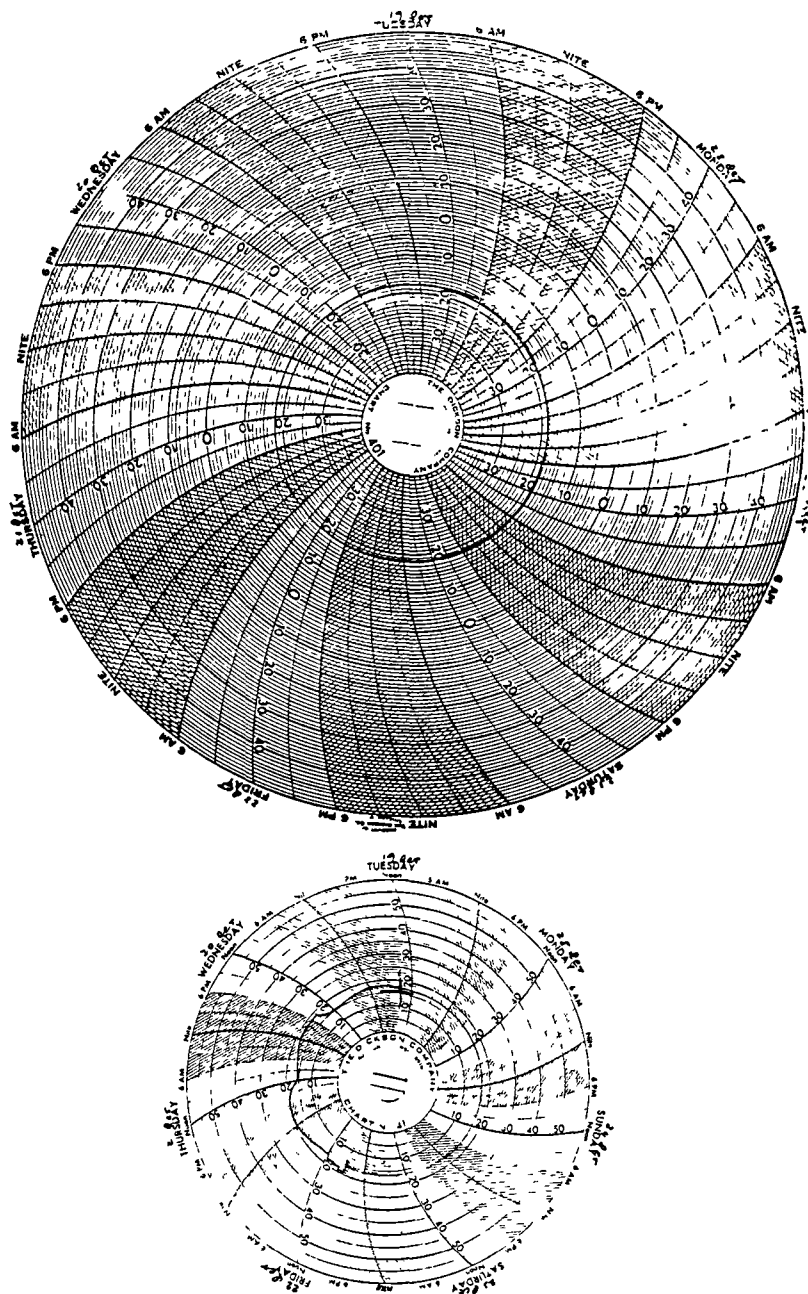


Figure A-13 - Refrigerator/freezer and ambient thermographs installed October 19, 1982, removed October 25, 1982



APPENDIX B

PHOTOVOLTAIC-POWERED VACCINE REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER  
USER EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Have you had an opportunity to follow the progress of the photovoltaic (PV)-powered refrigerator/freezer (R/F) system field test at Pucara, Peru.  
Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Approximately how many times did you or your staff visit the site since the system was installed? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Have National level representatives from the MOH Immunization Program followed the field test?

Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ If no, why not? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Does the MOH have an established program for vaccine preservation in rural (electricityless) areas? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

If yes, please describe the program, type of equipment used for vaccine storage and approximate annual cost per site: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Have vaccines been routinely stored in the PV-powered R/F? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If no, why not \_\_\_\_\_

If yes,

4.1 Approximately what percentage of the time? \_\_\_\_\_

4.2 Approximately how often are vaccines delivered to Pucara?  
\_\_\_\_\_

4.3 Please indicate, by type of vaccine, approximately how many vaccinations are administered per week at Pucara.

	<u>Vaccinations/Week</u>
4.3.1 DPT	_____
4.3.2 Polio	_____
4.3.3 Measles	_____
4.3.4 BCG	_____
4.3.5 TT	_____
4.3.6 MR	_____
4.3.7 Others (please list)	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

5. Does Pucara have an outreach program? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If yes,

5.1 Approximately how large an area is administered? \_\_\_\_\_

5.2 Approximately how large a population is administered? \_\_\_\_\_

5.3 Approximately how many cold packs are frozen each week? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Has the PV-powered R/F system at Pucara allowed immunization services to be offered on a routine basis? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

6.1 If yes, has immunization coverage increased? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6.2 If no, please explain why immunization has not been offered on a routine basis: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

As a consequence of offering immunization services routinely, has the community consulted on or demanded other health services?

6.3 Yes \_\_\_\_ Please explain \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6.4 No \_\_\_\_ Please explain \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. How did the local community receive (or perceive) the installation and/or use of the system?

7.1 Accepted without comment or problems \_\_\_\_

7.2 Problems(s) Accepting \_\_\_\_ Please explain \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7.3 Do not know \_\_\_\_

8. Please indicate what you view as the system's strong or weak points?

	<u>STRONG</u>	<u>WEAK</u>	<u>Please Explain</u>
8.1 Photovoltaic power system:			
8.1.1 PV modules structure and cabling	____	____	_____ _____ _____
8.1.2 PV system controls	____	____	_____ _____ _____
8.1.3 Batteries	____	____	_____ _____ _____
8.1.4 PV system instrumentation	____	____	_____ _____ _____
8.1.5 Thermograph	____	____	_____ _____ _____

	<u>STRONG</u>	<u>WEAK</u>	<u>Please Explain</u>
8.2 Refrigerator/Freezer:			
8.2.1 Design	—	—	_____ _____ _____
8.2.2 Size	—	—	(Too Small ____) (Too Large ____)
8.2.3 Frost/ice removal	—	—	_____ _____ _____
8.3 Ability to store non-EPI medications and/or vaccines (e.g., rabies and veterinary vaccines):	—	—	_____ _____ _____ _____
8.4 System cost: Please explain any other strong or weak points you may have observed.			_____ _____ _____ _____ _____
8.5 What would you do to improve the system?			_____ _____ _____ _____

9. How do you view MOH's reaction to PV-powered vaccine R/F systems?

Are problems real or perceived? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. Are the people who were trained in R/F system operation and use by the installation team still at the health post? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

If not, were the replacements trained in R/F operation and use?

Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

If yes, who trained them? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If no, why were they not trained? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. Please summarize operating problems with the system under the following categories:

11.1 Instrumentation problems which did not affect system operation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11.2 Equipment problems which did affect system operation. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11.3 Operator practices which affected system operation. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11.4 Other, or combinations of above. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. Please list system problems which the following personnel corrected:

12.1 Operator personnel \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12.2 MOH personnel \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12.3 Other, or combinations of above \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

13. How is system reliability viewed by you in regard to:

13.1 Vaccine storage: Very Good \_\_\_\_ Good \_\_\_\_ Fair \_\_\_\_ Poor \_\_\_\_

13.2 Ice making: Very Good \_\_\_\_ Good \_\_\_\_ Fair \_\_\_\_ Poor \_\_\_\_

14. How many health posts in Peru are without electricity? \_\_\_\_\_

14.1 How many of these health posts could use PV-powered R/F systems?  
\_\_\_\_\_

15. Does the MOH have funds to procure PV-powered vaccine R/F systems?

Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

If yes, how much? \_\_\_\_\_

16. Would you endorse the procurement of and/or order additional systems?

Endorse: Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Order: Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

If yes, how many? \_\_\_\_\_

Over what period of time? \_\_\_\_\_

If no, why not? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If no because of cost (present systems cost about \$5000 each) at what  
cost would additional procurement be considered? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

17. Would the MOH order additional systems? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

If yes, how many? \_\_\_\_\_

Over what period of time? \_\_\_\_\_

If no, why not? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If no because of cost (assuming systems cost \$5000 each), at what cost  
would procurements be considered? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



18. Would you or the MOH be more receptive to ordering these systems if a manufacturer would train a technical cadre and/or provide a central store of spares in the country?

Training: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_  
Maintain spares: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If yes, what spares do you believe should be stocked? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

19. Are there needs for additional electrical services at rural health posts?  
Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
If yes, what type? Area lighting	___	___
Exam lights	___	___
Sterilizer	___	___
2-way radio	___	___
Other	_____	_____

If no, why not? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

20. Would the inclusion of additional electrical services with the PV-powered vaccine R/F system make the systems more attractive even though these services would increase system cost? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

21. What comments do you and/or the MOH have regarding:

21.1 How the field test project was managed: \_\_\_\_\_

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21.2 System performance: \_\_\_\_\_

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21.3 System design: \_\_\_\_\_

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21.4 User training: \_\_\_\_\_

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21.5 System manuals: \_\_\_\_\_

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21.6 Operational support: \_\_\_\_\_

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21.7 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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1 Report No <b>NASA TM-86972 (Revised)</b>		2 Government Accession No		3 Recipient's Catalog No	
4 Title and Subtitle  <b>Photovoltaic-Powered Vaccine Refrigerator - Freezer Systems Field Test Results</b>				5 Report Date <b>August 1985</b>	
				6 Performing Organization Code <b>776-54-01</b>	
7 Author(s)  <b>Anthony F. Ratajczak</b>				8 Performing Organization Report No <b>E-2498</b>	
				10 Work Unit No	
9 Performing Organization Name and Address  <b>National Aeronautics and Space Administration Lewis Research Center Cleveland, Ohio 44135</b>				11 Contract or Grant No	
				13 Type of Report and Period Covered <b>Technical Memorandum</b>	
12 Sponsoring Agency Name and Address  <b>U.S. Department of Energy, Division of Photovoltaic Energy Technology, Washington, D.C. 20545 and U.S. Agency for International Development, Office of Energy, Washington, D.C.</b>				14 Sponsoring Agency Code Report No. <b>DOE/NASA/20485-18</b>	
15 Supplementary Notes <b>Final report. Prepared under DOE Interagency Agreement DE-AIOI-79ET20485 and AID Interagency Agreement PASA-NASA/DSB-5710-2-79.</b>					
16 Abstract <b>In 1979 the NASA Lewis Research Center, in cooperation with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and the U.S. Department of Energy, began a project to develop and field test photovoltaic-powered refrigerator/freezers suitable for vaccine storage. Development contracts were awarded to Solar Power Corp. and Solavolt International. Three refrigerator/freezers were qualified; one by Solar Power Corp. and two by Solavolt. Follow-on contracts were awarded to Solar Power Corp. for 19 field test systems and to Solavolt for 10 field test systems. The U.S. Agency for International Development joined in the field tests systems effort. A total of 29 systems were installed in 24 countries between October 1981 and October 1984. This report includes an explanation of the project, systems descriptions, installation experiences, performance data for the 22 systems for which field test data was reported, an operational reliability summary, and recommendations relative to system designs and future use of such systems. Performance data indicates that the systems are highly reliable and are capable of maintaining proper vaccine storage temperatures in a wide range of climatological and user environments.</b>					
17 Key Words (Suggested by Author(s)) <b>Photovoltaic; Refrigerator; Freezer; Immunization; Vaccine</b>			18 Distribution Statement <b>Unclassified - unlimited STAR Category 44 DOE Category UC - 63d</b>		
19 Security Classif (of this report) <b>Unclassified</b>		20 Security Classif (of this page) <b>Unclassified</b>		21 No of pages <b>98</b>	
				22 Price* <b>A05</b>	

**End of Document**